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Australia... 25 S. Italy... 2,000 Lire Portugal... 170 Esc.  
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PARIS, SATURDAY-SUNDAY, APRIL 21-22, 1990

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## J.S. Won't Yield to Captors

### Delay on Hostage 'Smoke Screen,' White House Says

WASHINGTON — The White House dismissed as "a smoke screen" Friday assertions by Lebanese kidnappers that the absence of U.S. diplomat had delayed the case of an American hostage. The diplomat, John H. Kelly, is headed home from Bonn to Washington on Friday. A pro-Iran terrorist group in Lebanon, Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine, had demanded that Kelly come to Syria for negotiations on the release.

"That was just a smoke screen. I think people realize that," White House press secretary, John Fitzwater, said when asked for an assertion that Mr. Kelly's absence was a crucial requirement. "The hostage situation is pretty much unchanged," Mr. Fitzwater said, adding that Mr. Kelly was still believed there was a possibility of release. We'll just wait and see if it's real."

Islamic Jihad had said that it did free one of three Americans held in Lebanon. But on Thursday it said the release was postponed because Washington had refused its request to send Mr. Kelly Damascus.

Mr. Kelly is the U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and a former ambassador to Iran. An Iranian newspaper close to President Hashemi Rafsanjani said Saturday's editions that the presence of the U.S. ambassador in Iran was enough to facilitate the release of an American hostage in Lebanon. The Associated Press reported from Nicaragua.

The English-language Tehran press also said it hoped a hostage release by the Islamic Jihad could "prelude the release of more hostages by another group."

pro-Iranian Lebanese leader Friday that one of the Americans would be released despite the minute problem. The captors' offer is serious," Hussein Mussawi, a leader of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah, or Party of God. "The offer will not be rejected and is still standing, but Americans are supposed to take a positive step. The American offer is serious."

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Soviet paratroopers photographed Friday through a barred window of a printing plant in Vilnius, just before the plant was stormed and several employees were beaten.

## EC Unity Drive Sets Up New Clash With Thatcher

By Barry James  
International Herald Tribune  
Washington Post Service

PARIS — The decision by France and West Germany to launch a drive for European political union by 1993, and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's blunt rejection of the initiative, have set the stage for another clash of wills at the European Community summit conference in Dublin next week.

The British leader, politically weakened at home by economic problems and wide opposition to a new "poll tax," risked once again appearing stubborn in continental eyes for opposing the measure.

She told the House of Commons on Thursday night that the EC had enough to do without getting involved in such "esoteric things" as political union. Douglas Hurd, the secretary of state for foreign affairs, is to elaborate on the British position in a speech Tuesday in Paris.

British officials said he would argue that the Community should concentrate on the practical problems confronting it rather than confounding the situation by introducing a concept, political union, that few people are clear about. The concrete problems, the British officials said, include monetary union, German reunification, world trade negotiations and relations with Eastern Europe and with the European Free Trade Association.

Without consulting Mrs. Thatcher, President François Mitterrand and Chancellor Helmut Kohl asked Prime Minister Charles J. Haughey of Ireland, the current president of the EC, to begin organizing an intergovernmental conference on political union before the end of this year. It would run parallel with the already scheduled conference on economic and monetary union.

Even if Mrs. Thatcher is against holding the conference on political union, she is not in position to block it, because such conferences can be called by a majority of the 12 EC countries. Mr. Haughey, who has been visiting European capitals, indicated that most members are in favor of exploring proposals for heightened unity.

Prime Minister Wilfried Martens of Belgium said he was ready to "actively support" the proposal. A spokesman for Jacques Delors, president of the EC's executive commission, a leading voice for

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See EUROPE, Page 9

## Ex-Leader Urges Vilnius to Halt Defiant Acts as Blockade Grows

By Bill Keller  
New York Times Service  
MOSCOW — As the Kremlin tightened its economic squeeze on Lithuania on Friday, the republic's former president called on the Lithuanian parliament to retract some of the more defiant measures it has enacted since declaring independence on March 11.

Algirdas Brazauskas, leader of the breakaway Lithuanian Communist Party and still one of the most popular figures in the independence government, said that independence itself was not negotiable but that the republic should relent on its decision to boycott the spring Soviet military draft and other measures.

"The price of independence must have its limits," said Mr. Brazauskas, the chairman of a new commission set up to cope with Moscow's cutting off of energy supplies.

Mr. Brazauskas's comments came as Moscow reportedly extended its economic embargo to curtail deliveries of metals, wood, tires and sugar and to scuttle joint-venture investments planned by three Japanese companies in Lithuania.

"We have received telegrams from documents that confirm that not only oil and gas but also food products have been diverted from Lithuania," the republic's deputy prime minister, Romualdas Ozolas, said at a news conference, Reuters reported from Vilnius.

[Mr. Ozolas said two ships from Cuba carrying raw sugar for Lithuania had been diverted from the republic's port, Klaipeda. He said supplies of fish from the neighboring republic of Latvia, intended for Lithuania, had been sent to another destination.]

Despite the introduction of strict rationing, officials predicted that Lithuania would run out of energy within a month if Moscow continued to withhold oil and gas supplies, and they said it did not have enough foreign currency to purchase even one day's oil needs from abroad.

Tensions flared Friday when Soviet troops attempted to seize a printing plant in Vilnius, beating workers who resisted the assault. A crowd of onlookers shouted, "Fascists! Fascists!" at the troops, according to accounts by Lithuanian officials.

get the supplies through other channels," he said. "The Soviet Union is trying to cause mass unemployment in Lithuania, to stop plants and factories, to drive workers onto the streets and encourage social unrest."

Mr. Ozolas said he was certain the disrupted delivery of food and other supplies was deliberate. "We cannot speak about some misunderstanding," he said. "I am sure this is a part of a complex of measures that can be called a blockade. I also fear that the range of these measures can be expanded."

The crackdown came a day after Moscow stepped up pressure on Lithuania to retreat from its independence drive by shutting off more than 80 percent of its natural gas supply. Oil was completely cut off on Wednesday.

In other developments Friday related to the crisis in the Soviet Baltic region:

• The White House said that the United States was "increasingly concerned" by reports of the Soviet economic crackdown on Lithuania and that President George Bush would be ready to brief Congress early next week on possible retaliatory steps.

• Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen of Denmark called an urgent meeting of Scandinavian foreign ministers to discuss the situation in Lithuania. The meeting will be held in Copenhagen on Sunday after the departure of a Lithuanian delegation led by Prime Minister Kazimiera Prunskiene, which is to arrive Saturday.

• Mrs. Prunskiene, searching for ways to offset the energy embargo, traveled to Stavanger on Norway's west coast, the center of the nation's North Sea oil industry. She said she did not expect firm contracts to be signed with oil companies during her Scandinavian tour.

• Denmark's energy minister, Jens Bigrav-Nielsen, ruled out government intervention to provide Lithuania with oil to make up for Moscow's blockade. "If, in connection with Lithuanian Premier Kazimiera Prunskiene's visit here on Saturday, we were asked for help, the answer would be that the Danish state does not sell oil," he told the Ritzau news agency.

• The Estonian foreign minister, Lennart Meri, declared that Estonia would not rescind a declaration proclaiming itself an occupied independent state. In a Finnish radio interview, Mr. Meri said Estonia could not accept President Mikhail S. Gorbachev's threat of economic reprisals unless the Estonians repealed the decision. (Reuters, AP, AFP)

## Tension Grows on Nuclear Weapons in Germany

Moscow Sends Confused Signals

By Marc Fisher  
Washington Post Service  
BONN — The Soviet Union's effort to slow down the pace of German unification could provoke a new and bitter debate over the stationing of nuclear weapons in West Germany, according to Western diplomats in Brussels, Bonn and Berlin.

A steady flow of often contradictory Soviet statements about German unity has left the Western powers confused over what the Soviet Union wants as it heads into next month's talks on the future of the two Germans.

The two Germans and the four World War II allies — Britain, France, the United States and the Soviet Union — are tentatively scheduled to meet on May 5.

Soviet leaders have variously said that they demand German neutrality and that they do not. Similarly contradictory statements have emerged about whether nuclear weapons should continue to be stationed in Germany.

"If the Soviets want to, they could provoke a major crisis by insisting on denuclearization as a condition for German reunification," said a senior NATO official.

"There is a deep reservoir of German public opinion that favors getting rid of all nuclear weapons."

Fully 85 percent of West Germans favor eliminating all nuclear weapons in their country and 95 percent feel no threat from the Soviet Union, according to a U.S. government analysis this month.

"The Soviets will call for removing all nuclear weapons from Germany," said Senator Nam's comments set terms for the U.S. military debate. Page 7.

Colonel Andrew Duncan, assistant director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London.

"The East Germans will too," he added. "And practically all West German politicians to the left of Chancellor Helmut Kohl will support it. The vote would be three-to-three, with the two Germans and the Soviets lined up against Britain, France and the U.S."

At the headquarters in Brussels of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Moscow.

See ARMS, Page 9

By Joseph Fitchett  
International Herald Tribune  
PARIS — France's decision to help fund a continuing role for NATO has sharply improved the outlook for trans-Atlantic solidarity, Western officials said Friday.

They voiced admiration for deft French and U.S. diplomacy that produced a show of French support for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization while couching it so that President François Mitterrand could disclaim any retreat from the traditional French quest for the dissolution of NATO as an instrument of U.S. hegemony in Europe.

In his press conference after talks with President George Bush on Thursday in Key Largo, Florida, Mr. Mitterrand announced that France was ready to join negotiations among NATO governments about "how to adapt the alliance to cope with the new times ahead."

France continues to oppose any suggestion that NATO can be transformed into a political body that might usurp political and foreign-policy roles that are being staked out by the European Community. But Mr. Mitterrand has publicly dropped

the skepticism with which France initially greeted the U.S. view that NATO should remain the centerpiece of Western security.

Explaining the French shift, officials said that Mr. Mitterrand, conscious of declining French influence in Europe as the two Germans move toward reunification, recognized that the equilibrium of Europe required a strong U.S. presence and therefore a strong role for NATO.

France had a choice, a U.S. official said: "Either try to help NATO and thus help maintain a full German role in NATO or else run the risk of seeing NATO fall apart, leaving France alone in a new, unpredictable Europe."

France's signal of renewed interest in NATO, these officials said, will help the Bush administration maintain domestic support for keeping U.S. forces in Europe.

U.S. officials oppose the idea that NATO's defense activities should gradually be supplanted by an "all-European security system" under the auspices of the 35-nation Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. This would rely on the willingness of all participants — including

See NATO, Page 9

## Greece Seizes Iraqi 'Weapon' Cargo

By Paul Anastasi  
New York Times Service  
ATHENS — In the latest incident in the controversy over Iraq's alleged construction of weapons, the Greek government announced Friday that it had seized a truck carrying to Iraq parts of a large-scale weapons system.

The announcement said the load was falsely presented as steel piping and that the case has been referred to the public prosecutor because no permit had been sought for the transport of the weapons.

The truck was carrying to Iraq part of a weapons system weighing 29.5 tons, though its documentation described it as steel piping, a statement from the Finance Ministry said.

[In London, a British firm involved in the dispute over Iraq's alleged attempt to build a "super-

gun" said Friday that it thought the truck seized in Greece was carrying pipes it manufactured, Reuters reported.

[The firm, Walter Somers Ltd, said it also believed a second truck carrying parts it made for Baghdad had been seized in Turkey. The firm said that the last of 12 steel tubes ordered by Iraq had left its

See GUN, Page 9

## On Cyprus, a Jittery Checkpoint

Frustration Grows on Divided Island as UN Talks Fail

By Paul Lewis  
New York Times Service  
NICOSIA — It never rivaled Berlin's Checkpoint Charlie for drama or tension. But for the last 16 years, the Ledra Palace Checkpoint here — 200 yards of empty road flanked by mountains of rusty barbed wire — has been the only breach in the hermetic division of Cyprus into a Turkish north and a Greek south resulting from the Turkish invasion of 1974.

At the crossing's southern end, the blue, white and orange flags of Greece and of the Republic of Cyprus fly over roadblocks and guardhouses. At the northern end are the red and white crescents of Turkey and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, which only Ankara recognizes.

But at both ends, the atmosphere is sad rather than menacing. This is not a crossing point for spies, but for elderly Maronite Christians from the north struggling along with helping suitcases to visit southern relatives, or for United Nations trucks ferrying supplies to a handful of Greeks stranded in remote northern villages.

The increase in tension is also showing itself in a

Tension has been rising at the checkpoint recently, after a band of Greek students entered Turkish territory and pulled down flags. Five were caught and jailed.

Other Greek Cypriot students responded with a round-the-clock blockade of the checkpoint, which the Greek Cypriot police did nothing to interrupt, further throttling the already scant contact between the two communities.

See CYPRUS, Page 9



EARTH DAY RALLY — Students from schools in Bytom, the most polluted Polish city in the Silesia industrial region, wearing gas masks and holding posters during a rally Friday in Katowice to mark Earth Day. The world event will take place Sunday. Page 3.

General News  
war of repression, centering  
leak and optim, ranges in  
jungles of Burma. Page 2.  
rth Day becomes more than  
marginal event. Page 3.

Business/Finance  
series said it will cut interest  
ments on some of its debt  
financing May 1. Page 13.

World  
Page 10.

Close  
The Dollar  
in New York  
2,895.72 DM 1.835  
Down Pound 1.835  
16.22 Yen 157.50  
FF 5.669







## AMERICAN TOPICS

## Help for Recipients Of Social Security

Congress is moving to correct a marked deterioration in service to Social Security recipients. Although both Social Security taxes and funds are higher than ever, Reagan-era budget cuts have reduced the system's work force from 80,000 full-time employees in 1984 to 63,000 now. Inset claims for pensions and medical bills are piling up and medical bills are going unanswered.

"People deserve better service," a former employee of the system said. "They paid for it."

Deputy Commissioner Herbert R. Doggett Jr., who is retiring, says the system is showing signs of "deterioration" and could be "overwhelmed" by the staff shortage. Reagan administration officials had argued that new computer systems could permit staff reductions without reducing service. Now, members of the Senate and of the House of Representatives are moving to provide money for an additional 1,000 workers.

## Short Takes

From the founding of the Ku Klux Klan after the Civil War, "later Applebome writes in The New York Times, 'the ghastly white robes with peaked hoods have been indelible symbols of racial and religious hatred.' Now a Georgia klanman, Shadrach Miller, has become the first person to challenge a 38-year-old state law, which bans the wearing of masks or hoods in public, with exceptions made for holly, sports or safety masks. Mr. Miller said the ban violates the right to free speech. He cited a federal court ruling that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, concerned about harassment, did not have to reveal the names of its members. Mr. Miller says Klan members, as well, risk ha-

## Ranking States by Each State's Law

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State	Rank	State	Rank	State	Rank
Alabama	16.5	Kentucky	3.0001	N.D.	30e
Alaska	16e	Louisiana	16e	Ohio	18e
Arizona	15e	Maine	28e	Oklahoma	23e
Arkansas	21e	Mass.	25e	Oregon	27e
California	2e	Mass.	25e	Pa.	18e
Colorado	20e	Michigan	25e	R.I.	37e
Connecticut	4e	Minnesota	38e	S.C.	7e
Delaware	14e	Mississippi	18e	S.D.	29e
Florida	12e	Missouri	13e	Tennessee	13e
Georgia	12e	Montana	10e	Texas	28e
Hawaii	40e	Nebraska	27e	Utah	23e
Idaho	18e	Nevada	15e	Vermont	17e
Illinois	15.5e	N.H.	21e	Virginia	2.5e
Indiana	15.5e	New Jersey	27e	Washington	34e
Iowa	21e	New Mexico	15e	W. Va.	17e
Kansas	24e	New York	35e	Wisconsin	30e
		N.C.	2e	Wyoming	12e

The New York Times

arrassment or losing their jobs if their identity is known. Michael R. Hauptmann, a civil-rights activist, is defending the Klan. Its members are "offensive," he said, but they still have rights.

Graduate business school students at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, are setting up what they say is the first group internship program with Eastern European businesses. Seven of them will work in Hungary this summer, and others hope to set up a similar program in Czechoslovakia. A spokesman for the Hungarian Trade Commission in New York said some students had arranged their own internships in Hungary, but that this apparently was the first university group internship.

When Barbara Bloomberg's son, Seth, was killed by a drunken driver nine years ago, her friend Marcy DeJesus helped her set up a Los Angeles chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, or MADD. As the local administrator of MADD, Mrs. DeJesus helped the chapter grow to its present strength of 5,000 members. This month her own son, Adam, 19, was killed in a head-

on collision with a drunken driver. "I know I'm not the only one this has happened to, and I won't be the last," she said, "although I pray every day that I will be."

Four years after starting to rebuild 5,000 abandoned buildings, containing a total of 50,000 apartments, New York City is running out of derelict structures. Renovating them costs hundreds of millions of dollars, and the work will be finished by 1992 or 1993. But the city needs an additional 200,000 dwellings, and it is confronting the far more expensive task of building them from the ground up. Refurbishing an apartment costs about \$65,000, constructing a new one costs \$80,000 to \$150,000.

It is no wonder European golfers win so many U.S. tournaments, says Peter Jacobson, a U.S. professional. "The Americans are used to playing on thick grass and perfect greens," he said. "When you play in Europe, you've got to dig it out of hoof marks and jeep tracks. No wonder they do so well."

Arthur Higbee

## 'Environmental' President Faces Political Realities

By David Hoffman

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — In his 1988 presidential campaign, George Bush pledged to stop offshore oil drilling in "environmentally sensitive" areas, but having once been in the oil business himself, Mr. Bush also said he would permit drilling in other places to meet energy needs.

Today, Mr. Bush is discovering the difficulty of reconciling these divergent goals and fulfilling his promise to be the "environmental president." He is agonizing over whether to ban offshore drilling on three sensitive tracts off California and Florida. The issue has provoked an intense dispute over energy policy, environmental protection and politics, presenting Mr. Bush with a thicket of unpalatable choices.

The offshore oil problem also reflects what many activists, industry and administration officials say is the mixed success of Mr. Bush's determination to pursue "balance" between sharply competing interests on environmental issues.

The former oilman, who has repeatedly warned of the dangers of relying on foreign oil imports, finds

himself in conflict with the president who fashions himself as a conservationist in the tradition of Theodore Roosevelt.

The political president who has devoted many days to campaigning for his party faces options that could antagonize environmentally conscious voters. And Florida and California will be crucial to Mr. Bush's campaign.

## NEWS ANALYSIS

Mr. Bush's hopes for re-election in 1992.

"This one is really difficult for him," a senior policy-maker said. "This has been a split-the-difference presidency, and on some issues you can't split the difference."

On some environmental issues, Mr. Bush has been able to reach a compromise with Congress and fulfill his campaign promises, notably his effort to break a decade-long impasse over clean air legislation.

There have been a host of more modest initiatives as well: additional money to clean up nuclear facilities, tougher penalties for ocean dumping, proposed expansion of national parks, a ban on ivory imports and Mr. Bush's plan to plant a billion trees each year.

In still other areas, Mr. Bush acted only after being pressured, as in his decision to endorse a worldwide phaseout of chlorofluorocarbons by the turn of the century after European nations had announced that they would phase out CFCs and the largest manufacturer said it would stop making them.

But where consensus is lacking, Mr. Bush's campaign promises have proved more elusive. He has yet to fulfill the spirit of his promises to tackle the global climate change, a phenomenon enmeshed in scientific and political disputes over how extensively man-made gases threaten the environment.

During the campaign, Mr. Bush promised to "invite high-level international leaders to a global conference to develop an action plan to address the global environmental problems like global warming."

But when such a conference was convened in Washington this week, the emphasis was markedly different. Administration officials at the conference were given "talking points" that suggested it would be "not beneficial to discuss whether there is or is not warming."

On the whole, Mr. Bush has tried to add some substance to the promise

on being the environmental president, and "I'm an environmentalist," said Paul R. Portney of Resources for the Future. "And the clearest is in clean air."

"With respect to global warming, the president has found that the science and certainly the politics have made it more difficult to take as forceful action there as in clean air."

In his campaign, Mr. Bush rarely mentioned the offshoring economic issues. He appeared to be signaling a desire to break cleanly from the anti-environment bent of the Reagan era. But once in office, he found governing more difficult.

In recent years, the Republican Party has been divided into two camps — one reflecting the western "sagebrush rebellion" faction that favored economic development of natural resources, and an eastern faction, composed of such figures as the former governor of New Jersey, Thomas H. Kean, that urged environmental protection and conservation.

Mr. Bush drew from both camps in filling key environmental positions. The Environmental Protection Agency administrator, William K. Reilly, is a conservationist;

Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan Jr. is part of the western faction.

A third group also took shape in the administration, led by the White House chief of staff, John H. Sununu, and the director of the Office of Management and Budget, Richard G. Darman, who have viewed environmental protection with skepticism if it impinged on economic growth.

The debates have also raged over the global warming issue. While Mr. Bush once promised to "test international negotiations" to limit the emissions causing global warming, the Sununu faction put a damper on such activism once Mr. Bush was in office.

George T. Frampton Jr., president of the Wilderness Society, expressed some disappointment that Mr. Bush has not been bolder.

"Watchful waiting may be a perfectly acceptable approach to Eastern Europe," Mr. Frampton said, "but in the environmental field we've lost almost 10 years, and we're facing a series of problems that can't be addressed without bold leadership."

But, he said, "I remain convinced that Bush believes he's a conservationist because he appreciates the outdoors and hunting and fishing, and when educated about environmental issues and gets into it personally, he will tend to make good choices."

## Earth Day '90: More Than a Fringe Event

By Barry James

International Herald Tribune

If the first Earth Day in 1970 was widely seen as a fringe issue, the recycled version on Sunday is a slickly organized event that has taken more than a year to prepare and will involve more than 140 nations.

It is designed to prompt changes in individual life-styles, encourage more recycling, more tree-planting and more concern about environmental issues, such as the shrinking rain forest, global warming and the hole in the ozone layer.

Millions of people around the globe Sunday are expected to parade, plant trees, recycle garbage and take part in nature walks and demonstrations.

Although environmental issues now are firmly on the political agenda in some countries, dramatic and concerted action to clean up the earth is still rare, either because it is too costly or because it would force people to alter their way of life.

A pledge by the seven wealthiest industrial nations in Paris last summer to undertake "concerted and determined action" to help the environment has so far achieved nothing.

"It's a lot easier to talk about it than to do anything about it," said William D. Ruckelshaus, the first administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. This week, the agency released figures indicating that U.S. industrial plants spewed 4.57 billion pounds of poisonous chemicals into the air, land or water in 1988 — close to 20 pounds (nine kilograms) of hazardous substances for every person in the United States.

This is only a small part of the pollution problem because the agency requires reports only from industries discharging more than 50,000 pounds of chemicals considered most

harmful to human health or the environment. Denis Allen Hayes, who dropped out of Harvard Law School to organize the first Earth Day, says he decided to recycle the event both to "close a decade of greed, sloth and mendacity" and to "jump start" the environmental movement.

In 1970, about 20 million people, mostly in the United States, participated in the event, which was quickly eclipsed by the Vietnam War and a shooting at Kent State University in

**'If the problems are to be solved, it will not be by our national governments, but at home among our local communities.'**

Mayor Tom Bradley of Los Angeles

Ohio. This time, Mr. Hayes said, "we want to have some consequences."

President George Bush, the host of an 18-nation conference on global warming earlier this week, headed for the Florida Everglades swamp region to fish, make a television special on conservation and enjoy "the splendors of our great outdoor heritage." He told the Washington conference that more study was needed to help resolve "uncertainties" about the effect of global warming and the costs of pollution control.

Mayors and local officials from 37 cities in 28 countries met in Los Angeles to discuss immediate steps they can take to avert global warming. Some of the steps include encouraging mass transit, planting more trees and control-

ling ozone-depleting chemicals. For example, New York City banned all traffic, except buses, on 42nd Street on Thursday to underline concern for the environment.

Referring to Mr. Bush's cautious statement earlier in the week, Mayor Tom Bradley of Los Angeles, said: "If the problems are to be solved, it will not be by our national governments, but at home among our local communities." Mr. Bradley is a recent convert to environmental concern in a city that, according to a report issued two weeks ago, is being overwhelmed by foul air, trash, water shortages and an explosive population growth.

The destruction of the tropical rain forest, which is disappearing at the rate of 30 hectares a minute, is a major theme for Earth Day. But not all environmental issues are that clear cut. Most include some form of trade-off — economic or otherwise.

Mineral fertilizers, for example, are seen in the developed world as a threat to the environment because they leach into rivers, pollute drinking water and degrade coastal habitats. Yet, huge areas of the earth are dying because of insufficient use of fertilizers, according to experts at the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome.

They said that an area the size of North and South America combined was affected to some degree by soil degradation and desertification. In some tropical areas, only the top few centimeters of soil are fertile, and it is literally being farmed out of existence because of failure to replace nutrients.

"The results of this depletion could be more catastrophic than many of the more apparent forms of environmental degradation that beset us today," said Henryk Jasiorowski, an assistant director-general at the UN organization.

## Use of AIDS in Europe Likely, WHO Says

The Associated Press

GENEVA — The number of AIDS cases in Europe is expected to double by the end of next year, the largest increase expected among heterosexuals, according to projections published Friday by World Health Organization.

The organization's Weekly Epidemiological Record said total projected cases of acquired immune deficiency syndrome would range from 60,000 to 78,000, compared to 31,497 cases registered by the end of 1989 in the 32 reporting countries. It said that by the end of 1991, the total was expected to include 24,000 to 30,000 cases among homosexuals and bisexuals, 23,000 to

33,000 among drug users, and 6,000 to 8,000 among heterosexuals. Comparisons of percentage changes from 1988 to 1989 show that the largest rise was among heterosexuals, according to the survey.

"AIDS in this group could become a greater problem in the European region," it said.

It is no wonder European golfers win so many U.S. tournaments, says Peter Jacobson, a U.S. professional. "The Americans are used to playing on thick grass and perfect greens," he said. "When you play in Europe, you've got to dig it out of hoof marks and jeep tracks. No wonder they do so well."

Arthur Higbee

## The Middle East, Africa &amp; Europe COOPERATION OR CONFLICT? EUROMEA '92

Paris, May 15-17, 1990 at the Royal Monceau Hotel

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No international decision maker can afford to miss Euromea '92.

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## SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

Mr. Bernard Duregne, Director, Agence France Presse.

Mr. Ali Ghandour, Special Adviser to H M King Hussein for Civil Aviation, Transport, Tourism, Jordan.

The Rt. Hon. Edward Heath, M.B.E. M.P., Former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

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Mr. Ghassan Thani, Former Deputy Prime Minister of Lebanon, Former U.N. Ambassador.

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# INTERNATIONAL Herald Tribune

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## Test All the Guests?

Foreign visitors seeking visas to the United States should not be subjected to political tests. But the question becomes more complicated in the case of seven Russian writers who have just begun a month-long tour financed by the United States Information Agency. The visitors hold anti-Zionist views that smack of anti-Semitism. Some Jewish groups complain that federal sponsorship legitimizes objectionable ideas, a point tantamount to inviting the Ku Klux Klan to discuss ethnic diversity in the South. These objections are off the mark.

No seal of approval is bestowed on a visitor who is a guest of the USA. The purpose of its program is to open eyes and ears, especially those of visitors with no firsthand experience of an open, pluralistic and multicultural society.

One such visitor in 1976 was a South African politician named F. W. de Klerk, who subscribed to racial beliefs offensive to most Americans. Mr. de Klerk, now president of South Africa, has since moderated those views — partly, he said,

because of that visit to the United States. The seven Soviet visitors are writers and prominent figures in the Russian nationalist movement. The anti-Semitism attributed to them is plainly repugnant. But America, which celebrates pluralism, ought to practice what it preaches. In the pre-Gorbachev days, Moscow turned a deaf ear to napoléon-like dissident opinions; for Americans to emulate that policy would teach a most peculiar lesson to Russian nationalists. It would make as much sense to allow Alexander Solzhenitsyn, some critics detect a strain of anti-Semitism in his brand of Russian nationalism.

The Soviet writers assert they are against Zionism, not against Jews. This is seen by many as a threadbare distinction and a mask for anti-Semitism — an argument the Soviet visitors are almost certain to hear. If Zionism is a disqualification for a USA visit, then many Islamic guests, including leaders of the Afghan resistance, would be barred. The right response to unwelcome ideas is to engage in debate, not to avoid it.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

## Mounting S&L Billions

Costs of the U.S. savings and loan cleanup keep rising. Each estimate is higher than the last. But as a matter of policy, the steady upward march of those numbers is less interesting than the reforms that are going on to be required to prevent a repetition. Last summer, Congress enacted legislation that provided both reforms and money, but it is not clear, not enough of either. That legislation will serve only as an interim measure.

Regarding the money, the comptroller general, Charles Bowsher, recently told Congress that his General Accounting Office had finished its final audit of the federal savings and loan corporation that insured thrift deposits. When that fund went out of existence last August, its capital was minus \$87 billion — the largest bankruptcy, as Mr. Bowsher observed, ever reported by any corporation, public or private. Last summer, based on the administration's figures, the GAO calculated that it would take at least \$257 billion over the next 30 years, including interest costs, to meet the federal government's responsibilities to savings and loan depositors. The GAO now thinks that the amount will run about one-fourth higher.

Over the coming months one is going to hear a lot about deposit insurance reform. It will, incidentally, cover banks as well as the savings and loans. The banks collectively are

now in much better shape than the thrifts, but even there the rate of failures has been running high, and the consequences of unwise real estate lending are apparent.

One necessary safeguard is to make the examination process tighter and more informative; there is not likely to be much argument about that. Another is to tighten the limits on the uses to which banks and savings and loans can put federally insured deposits. That will mean basic changes in the ways they do business, and that is where the fight will start.

The savings and loan bankruptcies have their origin in the early 1980s, when Congress and the Reagan administration collaborated to allow them to get into types of lending and investment that are much riskier than the conventional home mortgage lending that had been their traditional line of business. Banks argue that for competitive reasons they are going to have to engage in many kinds of financial businesses, not all of which are as safe as houses.

Maybe so. But if they are going to take risks, let them do it with their own money. It will be up to Congress to ensure that there are strict — and strictly enforced — rules on the uses to which they can put money that is federally insured.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

## Taxation From on High

The taxpayers of Kansas City, Missouri, must be wondering if they have for years completely misunderstood all the civics courses they took in high school: the ones where they learned about the separation of powers and the inequity of taxation without representation. To think they have been believing that elected officials — people whose positions must be in some measure responsive to the views of their constituents and whose tenure in office is dependent on those constituents' approval — are the ones who set and impose taxes.

Now, in a case involving school desegregation in their city, a series of federal courts has insisted that these principles are flexible and can be disregarded by a judge who assumes ultimate authority for raising and allocating this burden. This week five justices of the U.S. Supreme Court agreed that the Kansas City judge could order local authorities to double property taxes.

This case is unprecedented in two respects. The first is the scope of the remedies ordered by the judge. He ruled that in order to overcome the effects of previous segregation the Kansas City schools had to be made so exemplary that suburban youngsters would choose to return to the inner city to school. All schools were required to be completely renovated and air-conditioned. Every classroom was to be equipped with 15 microcomputers. Swin-

ning pools, a planetarium and a temperature-controlled art gallery were mandated. And extras such as a broadcasting system, a 25-acre farm, movie studios and a model United Nations with simultaneous translation facilities were found to be necessary to vindicate constitutional rights. The judge did not have to consider the cost — hundreds of millions of dollars — or the competing demands for city money for health, social services or law enforcement.

The second astonishing aspect of the case is the expansion of judicial power into an area understood to be the prerogative of a representative body of elected officials. As Justice Anthony Kennedy and three colleagues protested, the court's "casual embrace of taxation imposed by the unelected, life-tenured federal judiciary disregards fundamental precepts for the democratic control of public institutions."

The precedent for court-ordered tax increases to provide all sorts of services when constitutional rights are asserted is ominous. It also is very hard to understand how the Supreme Court could have refused to review the fantastic remedies ordered by the Kansas City judge and why a majority of justices has approved the concept of judicially mandated taxes. There are other ways for a court to compel compliance with even an order like this without imposing a tax to pay for it.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

## Other Comment

### Help Lithuania Ease the Grip

If [Michail] Gorbachev is bent on hammering the Lithuanians, there is not a great deal the West can do directly to help them, though what there is should be done. There is plenty it can do to rebuke Mr. Gorbachev. It makes little sense to interrupt arms-control talks, since they are in the West's interests too. But if the sanctions escalate to economic blockade, one casualty ought to be next month's Bush-Gorbachev summit. Would such a public humiliation encourage the Russians to stall over other things the West wants, such as speedy German unity? Maybe for a while. But the collapse of communism in East Germany leaves them little hope of stalling for long.

Sanctions that fall short of all-out warfare also deserve a response. Mr. Gorbachev is trying to mesh the Soviet economy into the outside world — through trade talks, requests for loans, observing organizations such as GATT and the IMF at work, and so on. If Mr. Gorbachev tightens the screws on Lithuania, the West can frustrate his economic ambitions.

One thing it can do is to give diplomatic recognition to the Lithuanian government. It can also give credits — perhaps for oil which could be delivered in a tanker or two

manned by, say, peaceable Swedes; free-lance actions by individuals could prove even more effective than those by governments. And the West can make it plain that Soviet belligerence in Lithuania will make it much harder for Mr. Gorbachev to start borrowing from the proposed European development bank.

— The Economist (London).

The Lithuanians are striving for the restoration of their independent state. It is debatable whether Lithuanian leaders have committed tactical errors, whether they formulated certain ideas in too radical a way, or wanted to achieve them too quickly. The truth must be clearly spelled out: The Lithuanian nation has the right to freedom, and the Russian state, by stifling the freedom of Lithuanians, will also stifle Russians' freedom. Let us also keep this common truth in mind: There can be no freedom in a nation which suppresses another nation. Dialogue and agreement are within arm's reach. We believe in the victory of common sense and of a democratic order. Stifling Lithuanian freedom with force would be a step backward for Russian and European democracy.

— Adam Michnik, writing in Gazeta International (Warsaw).

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THE TRIUMPH OF  
DEMOCRACY, THE  
END OF THE COLD  
WAR... THE WORLD IS  
LOOKIN' GOOD!



## Mere Fanfare Won't Get the Job Done

By David S. Broder

WASHINGTON — If the Earth is not tilting off its axis Sunday, it won't be because the Earth Day promoters haven't tried. Rarely has a publicity campaign of such massive proportions been unleashed on — or on behalf of — an unsuspecting world.

Hard to recall that 20 years ago, this thing was just a figment of Gaylord Nelson's imagination. The former Wisconsin governor and senator was flying from Santa Barbara, California, where he'd seen the damage of an oil spill, to Berkeley, where he had to improvise a speech. On the way, he pulled out a copy of the radical magazine, Ramparts, where he read about the "teach-ins" the anti-war movement was using to mobilize sentiment for a withdrawal from Vietnam.

Searching for something to spice his campus talk, Mr. Nelson came up with the idea of an environmental teach-in. And eight months later, Earth Day was born.

Now, Earth Day is an extravaganza. The only thing unchanged from 1970 is Mr. Nelson himself, a blithe spirit, as unimpressed and as funny as ever. But as that first Earth Day of 1970 morphed into Earth Week 1990, with every politician, scientist, entertainer and self-promoter trying to get into the act, it began to look like the gimmick that ate the world.

At one level, the environmentalists have swept away all opposition. The "conservation ethic" has become one of the fixed guiding stars of American politics. The sure sign that a cause has prevailed comes when its opponents adopt the very tactic that's aimed at

Earth Day has begun to look like the gimmick that ate the world.

them. When Michael Dukakis started his rallies in 1988 with the Pledge of Allegiance, you knew George Bush had made his point.

Well, on Tuesday of Earth Week, I went to a press conference with the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the Business Roundtable and the representatives of many of the industries the environmentalists love to hate: coal, chlorine, chemicals, compressed gas, electric power, plastics and rubber. They were gathered to proclaim their pride in the environmental advances of the past 20 years. Alexander Trowbridge, former secretary of commerce and former presi-

## Now We Are All on the Endangered List

GLOBAL POLLUTION is connected with the decisions of U.S. corporations to despoil the Earth in a way that personal pollution often is not. In "Our Earth, Ourselves," the editors of Environmental Action magazine write, the United States "cannot protest when Latin America sends us produce laden with pesticides banned in this country as long as our chemical factories are making and exporting those poisons to Latin America. We may deplore the destruction of tropical rain forests and its impact on global warming. But we cannot preach to a Third World that is trying to feed its hungry and resettle its poor so long as we refuse to force our automakers to produce cars that are far more energy efficient and far less destructive to the climate of our planet."

It follows also that individuals who demand accountability from corporate powers while excusing their own complicity are prolonging the environmental turmoil, which is broader and more lethal in 1990 than on the first Earth Day in 1970. In a moment of chastening, the country doesn't have the luxury of selectivity. No person and no corporation is on the exempt list, nor is anyone not on the endangered list.

— Columnist Colman McCarthy of The Washington Post.

## A National Policy Can Do Global Good

THE UNITED STATES must develop a comprehensive national energy policy that makes reduction of greenhouse gases and air pollutants a national objective. Energy conservation must be the cornerstone of this effort. America should also embark on an all-out program to develop nonpolluting sources of energy — whether it be on solar panels or a new, safe generation of nuclear power plants. It must find new uses for the cleanest-burning of the fossil fuels — natural gas. And the rich and the poor nations must reach an agreement to protect and replant forests. The United States must reassert itself as the world's leader in the effort to halt the staggering pace of population growth. Global environmental ills have replaced the Cold War as the greatest threat to international security. We must change course.

— Senator Timothy Wirth, a Democrat of Colorado and member of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, in The Washington Post.

## The Katyn Admission: Is It Surprising Europe's Past Still Haunts?

By William Pfaff

PARIS — The Soviet Union's acknowledgment of responsibility for the massacre of 15,000 Polish officers, including those whose bodies were discovered in the Katyn Forest in 1943, is remarkable, and at the same time inevitable. Once the atrocities committed by Stalin inside the Soviet Union had been admitted, it followed that Katyn and its attendant killings — the most appalling of the atrocities committed outside the U.S.S.R. — would have to be faced as well.

But Katyn is past. One can only express regret and turn away. The gunmen could be pursued, but Stalin is dead. The event that authorized the partition of Poland and led to Katyn, the Nazi-Soviet nonaggression pact of August 1939, had a second consequence, the Soviet Union's annexation of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. That is not over, and something now must — indeed will — be done about it.

There may be a more or less violent affirmation of Soviet rule over Lithuania and the other two republics. There may be independence for them. The prospective costs of either are heavy. The actual separation of those states from the U.S.S.R. is less onerous than the weighty precedent created for secession by other Soviet republics, risking eventual disintegration of the U.S.S.R., or its reduction to, at best, a union of Russia with Byelorussia and the Ukraine. Possibly Russia would eventually stand alone — a prospect seriously discussed in Russian nationalist circles, with "bitterness and distress."

That so drastic a change could peacefully come is an improbable hypothesis. One of those Russian nationalists, writing in Literaturnaya

Rossiia recently, observed that such a new Russia would not be "a second-rate state." It would remain "a Eurasian continent with all the natural resources and industrial potential, and the intellectual might, as well as — if it is necessary to mention it — the nuclear weapons and well-equipped, technically advanced army, which taken together, leave it in the ranks of the great powers."

History exacts its price. Stalin's policy assumed that feared and ruthlessness provided building blocks for Soviet security. The scale of what he caused to be done at Katyn and elsewhere is perhaps not fully appreciated even today. The murdered officers amounted to something like a third of the entire professional officer corps of the Polish Army. Moreover, those at Katyn were individually killed — shot in the back of the head or neck. Imagine: one after another, going down the rows, reloading...

Why? Poland and its army were no threat to the U.S.S.R. in 1940. The country was already defeated and occupied. Stalin, however, was thinking of the future. Poland had been hostile between the wars, when it had a conservative and authoritarian government dominated by the (Lithuanian-born) hero of the struggle for Polish independence, Józef Piłsudski. The Poles had fought a frontier war with the young Bolshevik republic after World War I.

Stalin set out to eliminate Poland as a factor in European affairs by killing its elite. That was begun at Katyn. Subsequently, in August 1944, the Soviet Army passed on the

Vistula, across from Warsaw, and allowed the German Army to crush the Warsaw uprising — which the Polish Resistance had launched in the belief they could themselves deliver the city to the advancing Russians. Stalin saw in this an opportunity to allow the Germans to do his work for him by destroying the Western-oriented Polish Home Army.

At the Yalta and Potsdam conferences he arranged with the Western allies for Poland's national frontiers to be shifted westward. He annexed part of eastern Poland, while imposing the Oder-Neisse line as Poland's western border, inside what then was Germany. He subsequently said to Charles de Gaulle: "Poland has always served as a corridor for the Germans to attack Russia... This corridor must be closed off." The border changes were meant to create a permanent cause of conflict between Poles and Germans. We have yet to see whether this plan succeeded.

The cold-bloodedness and human cost of such policies challenge our imaginations today, as does the fact that Stalin seems so easily to have found people to do his work for him, as did Hitler. It is easy in our world of democracies and prosperity to assume that the evil men do does not live on — evil neither providing a comfortable subject for discussion nor having a place in the political science syllabus. But the Katyns, Baltic interventions and deportations, Stalin's purges and the atrocities of Nazism all took place within the lifetimes of people now in their 50s, in the very Europe now celebrating its new-found liberties.

## OPINION

## Earth Day: Let the Work Begin

By Michael Ardon

LONDON — The oft-used expression "Nothing is free but the air we breathe" neglects the fact that more than 90 percent of the air we use is not consumed by breathing but by the burning of fossil fuels.

In one sense, the zero cost of the air used in burning such fuels could be said to be the real cause of the greenhouse effect and of the dangerous trend toward global warming.

The combustion of one ton of fossil fuel produces more than three tons of carbon dioxide, and the accumulation of carbon dioxide is the main cause of the greenhouse effect. Since plant life appeared on the Earth, carbon dioxide emitted by natural processes has been reabsorbed by the photosynthesis of green plants; the opposing processes kept its concentration constant.

But the balance has been increasingly disturbed in this century by excessive burning of fossil fuels and by a decrease in global photosynthesis because of the destruction of forests. The concentration of carbon dioxide could double in the next 40 years.

Experts do not expect scientifically reliable forecasts of the climatic impact of the greenhouse effect to be available in the near future, though research has been greatly expanded. But we cannot wait for the quantitative answers before taking counter-measures; it may be too late.

Public opinion now sees the need for concerted international action.

There is general agreement that efforts should be made to prevent further destruction of rain forests and to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by increasing the efficiency of electric power generators and automobile engines, improving thermal insulation of buildings and so on.

These delaying tactics may give us time in which to administer more effective and lasting remedies. These will involve major changes, such as the replacement of fossil fuels by other sources of energy — nuclear fusion and solar energy, for example — as well as the enhancement of global photosynthesis by the development of more efficient green plants and the expansion of green areas.

The main obstacles to implementing both the temporary measures and the long-range solutions are economic, not scientific. Not even the richest countries have the necessary financial resources. And effective measures taken by any single country to reduce fossil-fuel consumption would hurt its economy. Replacing coal, gas or gasoline by more expensive, "clean" sources of energy, such as solar radiation, would, at the present state of the art, increase energy prices to such levels that energy users would be wiped out by foreign competitors burning conventional fuels. So the need for international cooperation in alleviating the greenhouse effect is self-evident.

The cost to each country of taking part in such an international program would be so great that the method of raising the necessary funds will be not a fiscal or legal problem but the key to the project's success or failure. Any form of financing that is based on high taxes and subsidies is bound to interfere seriously with essential market forces. But these difficulties may be overcome by the ideas offered here as a basis for discussion.

Air is not an unlimited resource.

That it is free encourages waste, in effect subsidizing fossil fuel energy at the expense of other forms. Since it is a limited, but renewable resource, air should have a price. This should reflect the cost of recycling a ton of carbon dioxide emitted to the atmosphere. Payments for air can be made by the suppliers of fossil fuels, at the coal mine, the oil well or by fuel importers; but they will, naturally, be passed on to the consumer.

The funds raised by the sale of air can be transferred, via an international financial institution such as the World Bank, to national or private owners of permanently green areas (mainly rain forests), on the basis of the net number of tons of carbon dioxide they are estimated to absorb. A portion of these funds can be set aside for research and development.

So as not to disrupt the delicate mechanisms by which local and world economies operate, the price of air should be low at first, then rise gradually, until it reflects the full cost of recycling. The magnitude and timing of each price increase should be fixed in advance. This would give energy consumers time to decide how to cope with rising fuel costs, either by increasing efficiency or phasing out fossil fuels altogether in favor of alternative energy sources.

Research and development of such alternative sources will flourish under this scheme. As a result of this accelerated R&D, exploiting energy may become cheaper, while fossil fuel energy gets more expensive.

The present international climate, with its easing of tensions and shrinking of military budgets, is particularly favorable for a global project of this kind — aiming to save our planet for future generations.

The writer is a professor of chemistry at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, who is on sabbatical at the University College London. He contributed this to the International Herald Tribune.



## A Better Bet: Invest in the Environment

SUPPOSE WE gamble that global warming won't happen, and are wrong. When we have unambiguous evidence that warming is happening, it will be too late to slow it down. Scenarios of sudden change — temperatures climbing three to five degrees in a decade — pose the greatest risks. Predicted plagues will come to pass: forests will die, crops will wither, oceans will rise, disease will increase. And we will be defenseless before them. Money in the bank, unspent to reach environmental goals, will then be cold comfort.

The administration would have us believe we can protect ourselves from global warming only at the expense of economic growth. But Japan's impressive economic growth has hardly been stymied by its huge investment in some of the world's toughest air pollution controls and its development of an economic sector twice as energy-efficient as that of the United States.

On the contrary, Japanese companies see environmental protection as a major market opportunity, and are developing and selling environmental technologies. The "jobs vs. environment" argument is a myth handed down by an earlier generation of industrialists and long discredited. It deserves a decent burial.

— James H. Scheuer, Democrat of New York and chairman of the House Subcommittee on the Environment, writing in The New York Times.

## 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

### 1890: Zola on Socialism

PARIS — From his new apartment in the rue de Bruxelles, M. Emile Zola chatted about Socialism yesterday [April 20]: "I am now at work on a novel, 'L'Argent,' which will treat many of the questions regarding capital, labor, etc., now being agitated by the discontented classes of Europe. I shall take the position that speculation is a good thing, without which the great industries of the world would die out, as the population would die out were it not for sexual passion. Today's rumblings and mutterings sounding from Socialistic centers are the prelude to an eruption which will more or less modify existing social conditions. But has the world been any better for our great Revolution? Are men really any more equal now than they were 100 years ago? Can you guarantee a man against an unfaithful wife? Can you make all men equally happy, or equally wise? No! Then stop talking about equality! Liberty, yes; fraternity, yes; but equality, never!"

### 1915: China's Open Door

LONDON — A despatch received here from Washington says that, while declining to discuss in detail the American policy toward the negotiations between Japan and China, William Jennings Bryan said the United States stood firmly on the announcement that had made at the beginning of the Wilson Administration that it purposed to support the open door and freedom of commercial opportunity in the Far East.

### 1940: Fascist Albania

TIRANA — Lieutenant General Francesco Jacomoni, Military Governor of Albania, has inaugurated the first session of the Supreme Fascist Council here on the anniversary of the presentation of the crown of Scanderbeg to King Victor Emmanuel of Italy and read a message from the sovereign stating that authority, order and justice would be the fundamental rule for the country.



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# EARTH DAY 1990

THE MAN WHO PLANTED TREES

BY JEAN GIONO

**F**or a human character to reveal truly exceptional qualities, one must have the good fortune to be able to observe its performance over many years. If this performance is devoid of all egoism, if its guiding motive is unparalleled generosity, if it is absolutely certain that there is no thought of recompense and that, in addition, it has left its visible mark upon the earth, then there can be no mistake.

About forty years ago I was taking a long trip on foot over mountain heights quite unknown to tourists, in that ancient region where the Alps thrust down into Provence. All this, at the time I embarked upon my long walk through these deserted regions, was barren and colorless land. Nothing grew there but wild lavender.

I was crossing the area at its widest point, and after three days' walking, found myself in the midst of unparalleled desolation. I camped near the vestiges of an abandoned village. I had run out of water the day before, and had to find some. These clustered houses, although in ruins, like an old wasps' nest, suggested that there must once have been a spring or well here. There was indeed a spring, but it was dry. The five or six houses, roofless, gnawed by wind and rain, the tiny chapel with its crumbling steeple, stood about like the houses and chapels in living villages, but all life had vanished.

It was a fine June day, brilliant with sunlight, but over this unsheltered land, high in the sky, the wind blew with unendurable ferocity. It growled over the carcasses of the houses like a lion disturbed at its meal. I had to move my camp.

After five hours' walking I had still not found water and there was nothing to give me any hope of finding any. All about me was the same dryness, the same coarse grasses. I thought I glimpsed in the distance a small black silhouette, upright, and took it for the trunk of a solitary tree. In any case I started toward it. It was a shepherd. Thirty sheep were lying about him on the baking earth.

He gave me a drink from his water-gourd and, a little later, took me to his cottage in a fold of the plain. He drew his water—excellent water—from a very deep natural well above which he had constructed a primitive winch.

The man spoke little. This is the way of those who live alone, but one felt that he was sure of himself and confident in his assurance. That was unexpected in this barren country. He lived, not in a cabin, but in a real house built of stone that bore plain evidence of how his own efforts had reclaimed the ruin he had found there on his arrival. His roof was strong and sound. The wind on its tiles made the sound of the sea upon its shore.

The place was in order, the dishes washed, the floor swept, his rifle oiled; his soup was boiling over the fire. I noticed then that he was cleanly shaved, that all his buttons were firmly sewed on, that his clothing had been mended with the meticulous care that makes the mending invisible. He shared his soup with me and afterwards, when I offered my tobacco pouch, he told me that he did not smoke. His dog, as silent as himself, was friendly without being servile.

It was understood from the first that I should spend the night there; the nearest village was still more than a day and a half away. And besides I was perfectly familiar with the nature of the rare villages in that region. There were four or five of them scattered well apart from each other on these mountain slopes, among white oak thickets, at the extreme end of the wagon roads. They were inhabited by charcoal-burners, and the living was bad. Families, crowded together in a climate that is excessively harsh both in winter and in summer found no escape from the unceasing conflict of personalities. Irrational ambition reached inordinate proportions in the continual desire for escape. The men took their wagonloads of charcoal to the town, then returned. The soundest characters broke under the perpetual grind. The women nursed their grievances. There was rivalry in everything, over the price of charcoal as over a pew in the church, over warring virtues as over warring vices, as well as over the ceaseless combat between virtue and vice. And over all there was the wind, also ceaseless, to rasp upon the nerves. There were epidemics of suicide and frequent cases of insanity, usually homicidal.

The shepherd went to fetch a small sack and poured out a heap of acorns on the table. He began to inspect them, one by one, with great concentration, separating the good from the bad. I smoked my pipe. I did offer to help him. He told me that it was his job. And in fact, seeing the care he devoted to the task, I did not insist. That was the whole of our conversation. When he had set aside a large enough pile of good acorns, he counted them out by tens, meanwhile eliminating the small ones or those which were slightly cracked, for now he examined them more closely. When he had thus selected one hundred perfect acorns he stopped and we went to bed.

There was peace in being with this man. The next day I asked if I might rest here for a day. He found it quite natural—or, to be more exact, he gave me the impression that nothing could startle him. The rest was not abso-

lutely necessary, but I was interested and wished to know about him. He opened the pen and led his flock to pasture. Before leaving, he plunged his sack of carefully selected and counted acorns into a pail of water.

I noticed that he carried for a stick an iron rod as thick as my thumb and about a yard and a half long. Resting myself by walking, I followed a path parallel to his. His left the dog in charge of the little flock and climbed toward where I stood. I was afraid that he was about to rebuke me for my indiscretion, but it was not that at all: this was the way he was going, and he invited me to go along if I had nothing better to do. He climbed to the top of the ridge, about a hundred yards away.

There he began thrusting his iron rod into the earth, making a hole in which he planted an acorn; then he refilled the hole. He was planting oak trees. I asked him if the land belonged to him. He answered no. Did he know whose it was? He did not. He supposed it was community property, or perhaps belonged to people who cared nothing about it. He was not interested in finding out whose it was. He planted his hundred acorns with the greatest care.

After the midday meal he resumed his planting. I suppose I must have been fairly insistent in my questioning, for he answered me. For three years he had been planting trees in this wilderness. He had planted one hundred thousand. Of the hundred thousand, twenty thousand had sprouted. Of the twenty thousand he still expected to lose about half, to rodents or to the unpredictable designs of Providence. There remained ten thousand oak trees to grow where nothing had grown before.

That was when I began to wonder about the age of this man. He was obviously over fifty. Fifty-five, he told me. His name was Elzeard Bouffier. He had once had a farm in the lowlands. There he had had his life. He had lost his only son, then his wife. He had withdrawn into this solitude where his pleasure was to live leisurely with his lambs and his dog. It was his opinion that this land was dying for want of trees. He added that, having no very pressing business of his own, he had resolved to remedy this state of affairs.

Since I was at that time, in spite of my youth, leading a solitary life, I understood how to deal gently with solitary spirits. But my very youth forced me to consider the future in relation to myself and to a certain quest for happiness. I told him that in thirty years his ten thousand oaks would be magnificent. He answered quite simply that if God granted him life, in thirty years he would have planted so many more that these ten thousand would be like a drop of water in the ocean.

Besides, he was now studying the reproduction of beech trees and had a nursery of seedlings grown from beechnuts near his cottage. The seedlings, which he had protected from his sheep with a wire fence, were very beautiful. He was also considering birches for the valleys

where, he told me, there was a certain amount of moisture a few yards below the surface of the soil.

The next day, we parted.

The following year came the War of 1914, in which I

was involved for the next five years. An infantry man hardly had time for reflecting upon trees. To tell the truth, the thing itself had made no impression upon me; I had considered it as a hobby, a stamp collection, and forgotten it.

The war over, I found myself possessed of a tiny demobilization bonus and a huge desire to breathe fresh air for a while. It was with no other objective that I again took the road to the barren lands.

The countryside had not changed. However, beyond the deserted village I glimpsed in the distance a sort of greyish mist that covered the mountaintops like a carpet. Since the day before, I had begun to think again of the shepherd tree-planter. "Ten thousand oaks," I reflected, "really take up quite a bit of space."

I had seen too many men die during those five years not to imagine easily that Elzeard Bouffier was dead, especially since, at twenty, one regards men of fifty as old men with nothing left to do but die. He was not dead. As a matter of fact, he was extremely spry. He had changed jobs. Now he had only four sheep but, instead a hundred beehives. He had got rid of the sheep because they threatened his young trees. For, he told me (and I saw for myself), the war had disturbed him not at all. He

had imperturbably continued to plant.

The oaks of 1910 were then ten years old and taller than either of us. It was an impressive spectacle. I was literally speechless and, as he did not talk, we spent the whole day walking in silence through his forest. In three sections, it measured eleven kilometers in length and three kilometers at its greatest width. When you remembered that all this had sprung from the hands and the soul of this one man, without technical resources, you understood that men could be as effective as God in other realms than that of destruction.

He had pursued his plan, and beech trees as high as my shoulder, spreading out as far as the eye could reach, confirmed it. He showed me handsome clumps of birch planted five years before—that is, in 1915, when I had been fighting at Verdun. He had set them out in all the valleys where he had guessed—and rightly—that there was moisture almost at the surface of the ground. They were as delicate as young girls, and very well established.

Creation seemed to come about in a sort of chain reaction. He did not worry about it; he was determinedly pursuing his task in all its simplicity; but as we went back toward the village I saw water flowing in brooks that had been dry since the memory of man. This was the most impressive result of chain reaction that I had seen. These dry streams had once, long ago, run with water. Some of the dreary villages I mentioned before had been built on the sites of ancient Roman settlements, traces of which still remained; and archaeologists, exploring there, had found fishhooks where, in the twentieth century, cisterns were needed to assure a small supply of water.

The wind, too, scattered seeds. As the water reappeared, so there reappeared willows, rushes, meadows, gardens, flowers, and a certain purpose in being alive. But the transformation took place so gradually that it became a part of the pattern without causing any astonishment. Hunters, climbing into the wilderness in pursuit of hares or wild boar, had of course noticed the sudden growth of little trees, but had attributed it to some natural caprice of the earth. That is why no one meddled with Elzeard Bouffier's work. If he had been detected he would have had opposition. He was undetectable. Who in the villages or in the administration could have dreamed of such perseverance in a magnificent generosity?

To have anything like a precise idea of his exceptional character one must not forget that he worked in total solitude: so total that, toward the end of his life, he lost the habit of speech. Or perhaps it was that he had no need for it.

In 1933 he received a visit from a forest ranger who notified him of an order against lighting fires out of doors for fear of endangering the growth of this natural forest. It was the first time, the man told him naively, that he had ever heard of a forest growing of its own accord. At that time Bouffier was about to plant beeches at a spot some twelve kilometers from his cottage. In order to avoid travelling back and forth—for he was then seventy-five—he planned to build a stone cabin right at the plantation. The next year he did so.

In 1935, a whole delegation came from the Government to examine the "natural forest." There was a high official from the Forest Service, a deputy, technicians. There was a great deal of ineffectual talk. It was decided that something must be done and, fortunately, nothing was done except the only helpful thing: the whole forest was placed under the protection of the State, and charcoal burning prohibited. For it was impossible not to be captivated by the beauty of those young trees in the fullness of health, and they cast their spell over the deputy himself.

A friend of mine was among the forestry officers of the delegation. To him I explained the mystery. One day the following week we went together to see Elzeard Bouffier. We found him hard at work, some ten kilometers from the spot where the inspection had taken place.

This forester was not my friend for nothing. He was aware of values. He knew how to keep silent. I delivered the eggs I had brought as a present. We shared our lunch among the three of us and spent several hours in wordless contemplation of the countryside.

In the direction from which we had come the slopes were covered with trees twenty to twenty-five feet tall. I remembered how the land had looked in 1913: a desert. . . Peaceful, regular toil, the vigorous mountain air,



frugality and, above all, serenity of spirit had endowed this old man with awe-inspiring health. He was one of God's athletes. I wondered how many more acres he was going to cover with trees.

Before leaving, my friend simply made a brief suggestion about certain species of trees that the soil here seemed particularly suited for. He did not force the point. "For the very good reason," he told me later, "that Bouffier knows more about it than I do." At the end of an hour's walking—having turned it over in his mind—he added, "He knows a lot more about it than anybody. He's discovered a wonderful way to be happy!"

It was thanks to this officer that not only the forest but also the happiness of the man was protected. He delegated three rangers to the task, and so terrorized them that they remained proof against all the bottles of wine the charcoalburners could offer.

The only serious danger to the work occurred during the War of 1939. As cars were being run on gazogenes (wood-burning generators), there was never enough wood. Cutting was started among the oaks of 1910, but the area was so far from any railroads that the enterprise turned out to be financially unsound. It was abandoned. The shepherd had seen nothing of it. He was thirty kilometers away, peacefully continuing his work, ignoring the War of '39 as he had ignored that of '14.

I saw Elzeard Bouffier for the last time in June of 1945. He was then eighty-seven. I had started back along the route through the wastelands; but now, in spite of the disorder in which the war had left the country, there was a bus running between the Durance Valley and the mountain. I attributed the fact that I no longer recognized the scenes of my earlier journeys to this relatively speedy transportation. It seemed to me, too, that the route took me through new territory. It took the name of a village to convince me that I was actually in that region that had been all ruins and desolation.

The bus put me down at Vergons. In 1913, this hamlet of ten or twelve houses had three inhabitants. They had been savage creatures, hating one another, living by trapping game, little removed, both physically and morally, from the conditions of prehistoric man. All about them nettles were feeding upon the remains of abandoned houses. Their condition had been beyond hope. For them, nothing but to await death—a situation which rarely predisposes to virtue.

Everything was changed. Even the air. Instead of the harsh dry winds that used to attack me, a gentle breeze was blowing, laden with scents. A sound like water came from the mountains: it was the wind in the forest. Most amazing of all, I heard the actual sound of water falling into a pool. I saw that a fountain had been built, that it flowed freely and—what touched me most—that someone had planted a linden beside it, a linden that must have been four years old, already in full leaf, the incontestable symbol of resurrection.

Besides, Vergons bore evidence of labor at the sort of undertaking for which hope is required. Hope, then, had returned. Ruins had been cleared away, dilapidated walls torn down and five houses restored. Now there were twenty-eight inhabitants, four of them young married couples. The new houses, freshly plastered, were surrounded by gardens where vegetables and roses, leeks and snapdragons, celery and anemones grew. It was now a village where one would like to live.

From that point on I went on foot. The war just finished had not yet allowed the full blooming of life, but Lazarus was out of the tomb. On the lower slopes of the mountain I saw little fields of barley and rye; deep in the narrow valleys the meadows were turning green.

It has taken only the eight years since then for the whole countryside to glow with health and prosperity. On the site of ruins I had seen in 1913 now stand neat farms, cleanly plastered, testifying to a happy and comfortable life. The old streams, fed by the rains and snows that the forest conserves, are flowing again. Their waters have been channeled. On each farm, in groves of maples, fountain pools overflow on to carpets of fresh mint. Little by little the villages have been rebuilt. People from the plains, where land is costly, have settled here, bringing youth, motion, the spirit of adventure. Along the roads you meet heavy men and women, boys and girls who understand laughter and have recovered a taste for picnics. Counting the former population, unrecognizable now that they live in comfort, more than ten thousand people owe their happiness to Elzeard Bouffier.

When I reflect that one man, armed only with his own physical and moral resources, was able to cause this land of Canaan to spring from the wasteland, I am convinced that in spite of everything, humanity is admirable. But when I compute the unfailing greatness of spirit and the tenacity of benevolence that it must have taken to achieve this result, I am taken with an immense respect for that old and unlearned peasant who was able to complete a work worthy of God.

Elzeard Bouffier died peacefully in 1947 at the hospice in Banon. ■



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## Where Are Your Kids at Night? In N.Y. Town, Parents Know

By Sam Howe Verhovek  
New York Times Service

MECHANICVILLE, New York — Patrick Hildreth has always liked that little night spot on his local television station: "It's 10 P.M.," the announcer intones. "Do you know where your kids are?"

And now that Mr. Hildreth has become mayor of this faded mill town along the upper Hudson River, Mechanicville is taking a stand against parents who cannot answer the question. It will arrest them.

The mayor, dusting off a 1915 ordinance that seems to have never been enforced, is vowing to clamp down on any parent whose child is found out after 10 P.M. First-time violations will be fined \$25, he said, but after that they risk going to jail.

So far the threat seems to be keeping the streets clear after 10.

"You could have safely shot a cannonball down Main Street last night," the mayor, a burly 43-year-old father of four, said with a touch of gloom. He said he took the action to curb vandalism, noise and "general hanging out" by teenagers.

While many towns have experimented with curfews for the young, especially around Halloween, Mechanicville's approach appears to be singular. Law-enforcement officials and civil rights advocates agreed that they knew of no other community that used a curfew law to punish parents of errant youths.

Under the law, in fact, youths who violate the curfew face no sanction at all. But to many of them, running about of their parents seems as dire a prospect as running about of the law.

"My mom said if I ever get caught and she gets in trouble, then it will be 10 o'clock forever for me," said Bridget McMahon, a 14-year-old ninth grader at Mechanicville Central School, the junior high school for this town of 5,300.

The law, which the police began enforcing on Monday, applies to anyone under the age of 16, although the mayor said he was in favor of extending the curfew to anyone 18 and under. Each night a foghorn on a telephone pole that towers over the local McDonald's sounds the curfew at 10. After that, a youth had better be home.

"Or hiding, like really hiding out, in the bushes," said Lisa Marcella, a 12-year-old who said she was

strongly opposed to the ordinance because 10 o'clock is "just when things are starting to happen."

Few adults in Mechanicville have objected to the law, perhaps because none has actually been arrested. "I have no problem with it," said Diane Falco, who was slicing cheese at a delicatessen. "It's just like if you're going 45 in a 30-mile-an-hour zone. You get a ticket. If your kid's out past 10 o'clock, you get a ticket. It makes a lot of sense to me."

Still, many youths say they resent the ordinance, and the junior high's student council is considering a petition drive to persuade Mr. Hildreth to ease up, even if only on weekend nights.

Just before 10 o'clock Wednesday night, Mr. Hildreth was walking around Mechanicville's streets, trying to explain the ordinance to groups of wary youths.

One asked, "What's the underlying motive of this law?"

Mr. Hildreth replied, "The point is, if a parent isn't concerned, the city is trying to find out why. I'm genuinely interested."

But many of the teenagers seemed unconvinced. The New York Civil Liberties Union has begun exploring the possibility of challenging the curfew law. "It's unconstitutional," said the group's executive director, Norman Siegel. "Under no circumstances should you punish the parents for the actions of a juvenile, unless you can demonstrate a clear contributory fault."

That means a parent would actually have to encourage a child to break the curfew, and even then the law would be suspect, Mr. Siegel said.

And if a youth sneaks out a window late one night? "Forget it," Mr. Siegel said. "The law could never stand up in court."

But Mr. Hildreth, who defeated a 24-year incumbent last fall in a law-and-order campaign, seemed unfazed by the possibility of a lawsuit.

"If somebody wants to come up and challenge me, they should do it," the mayor said. "They can make a test case of it. They can make a federal case out of it, for all I care."

"But they should also come out and walk the streets some night, and they'll see that this law works."

## F. Rossif, European Filmmaker, Dies at 68

The Associated Press  
PARIS — Frédéric Rossif, 68, one of Europe's foremost documentary filmmakers, has died of a heart attack.

The subjects of his films ranged from Picasso to African wildlife and Nazi Germany. He won France's Jean Vigo award in 1963 for "To Die in Madrid," about the Spanish Civil War.

Mr. Rossif was born in Montenegro and went to university in Rome. He fought with the French Foreign Legion during World War II then settled in France and became a citizen in 1947.

Other deaths: Dr. Charles E. Higgins, 60, who revolutionized blood banking with his discovery of a method of preserving frozen blood. Wednesday in Boston of cancer of the pancreas. By adding glycerol to red blood cells, he was able to thaw frozen blood without destroying the cells.

Richard G. Stein, 73, an architect whose ideas on energy conservation have been influential in the design of buildings for two decades, in Tarrytown, New York on Wednesday from a fractured skull after falling on a stairway.

Helen Pons, 91, a costume designer for almost four decades until her retirement in 1965, of kidney problems Thursday in Rome. She designed and directed the costumes for such shows as "The Frank," "Babes in Arms" and "The Time of the Cuckoo."

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## Gorbachev Undercuts City Rule Of Moscow

By Francis X. Clines  
New York Times Service

MOSCOW — President Mikhail S. Gorbachev used his special decree powers Friday to undercut the authority of Moscow's new insurgent government, stripping the city of local control of street demonstrations and protest rallies in the center of the capital.

A watchful Kremlin issued the decree as insurgents taking over the city council chose Gavril K. Popov, a radical free-market economist, to be the chief of Moscow's government.

The twin moves sketched the political shape of things to come: The nation's nascent political opposition has achieved its initial electoral successes in key urban areas where insurgent majorities are promising strong local initiatives to challenge the Gorbachev government.

The new council majority would likely have been far more respectful of the public's right to protest in the city center near the Kremlin than has the central government apparatus during the seven decades of Communist monopoly.

The decree from Mr. Gorbachev, issued under his new presidential powers enacted by the national parliament to deal with special situations, was announced by Tass, the government press agency.

The reason cited was that "supreme state and government institutions are located in the Kremlin and other places in the center of the city."

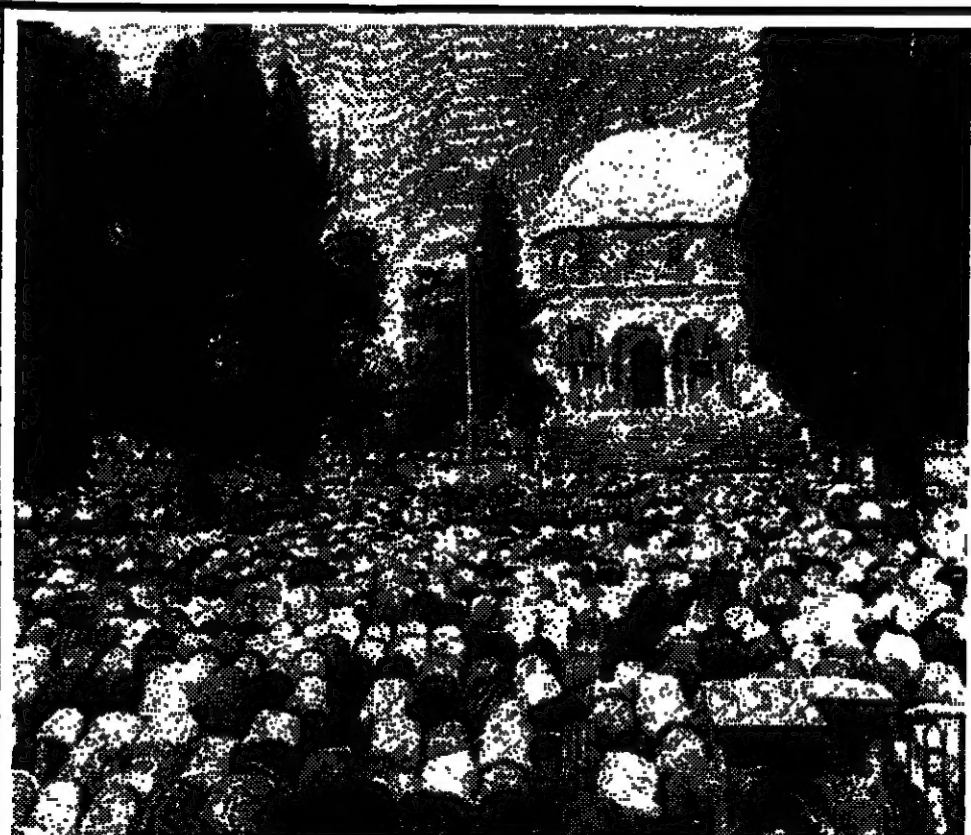
## Tokyo to Deport Chinese Hijacker

United Press International

TOKYO — The Tokyo High Court cleared the way Friday for the extradition to China of a man who said he hijacked a plane to Japan to escape torture for his role in pro-democracy demonstrations in Tiananmen Square last year.

The ruling, which cannot be appealed, gives the Justice Ministry authority to send Zhang Zhenhai, 36, back to China to stand trial on charges that he hijacked an Air China passenger jet, carrying 233 people, to Japan on Dec. 16.

The court, which said that it had assurances from China that Mr. Zhang would not be executed and would be tried only for the hijacking and not for his political actions, gave the Justice Ministry up to 30 days to extradite him.



A PRAYER IN RAMADAN — Thousands of Muslims gathering Friday to pray at the Aqsa Mosque in the Old City of Jerusalem for the holy month of Ramadan, which ends next week.

## Some Members Call Walesa a Despot As Policy Feud Shakes Up Solidarity

By Blaine Harden

Washington Post Service

GDANSK, Poland — Lech Walesa, the leader of the Solidarity trade union who wants to be president of Poland, defended himself on Friday from accusations that he had run his movement like a dictator.

He threatened to walk out of Solidarity's second national congress if disaffected members who criticized his leadership were allowed to attend.

"If they were invited, I would leave this hall," Mr. Walesa said. "I am not going to sit at the same table with these guys."

He made the remark during a speech that had been billed as his report on the evolution of Solidarity in the past decade.

Mr. Walesa made his threat after a majority of the delegates to the congress voted to open up the meeting to the ostracized Solidarity members.

Many of the disaffected members have accused Mr. Walesa of running Solidarity like a despot. They also have condemned the Solidarity-led government in Warsaw for abandoning the interests of

working people. Last year, Solidarity drove the Communist Party from power in Poland.

Shortly after Mr. Walesa spoke, several delegates rose and demanded that he apologize.

"You are not in a position to say those words," said a delegate from Lodz, Jerzy Stasiak.

The dispute seems likely to widen a fundamental split in the troubled trade union.

On one side are the Solidarity members who either run or are loyal to the government in Warsaw. The prime minister and several other key ministers are long-time Solidarity members who argue that unemployment and social pain are the unavoidable consequences of free-market changes.

On the other side are the Solidarity members who say that a trade union loses its purpose when it stops protecting the interests of workers.

Mr. Walesa has tried to straddle the split. He has demanded government protection for the unemployed while insisting that drastic free-market revisions were a necessary evil.

But a Solidarity chairman from

Lodz, Andrzej Slowik, said Friday that he expected the congress to divide between the two camps.

Last week, Mr. Walesa, 46, publicly acknowledged his desire to become president.

And even though on Friday Mr. Walesa lost his bid to keep his critics out of the congress, his presence — and his presidential aspirations — dominated the event.

"There was no time for democracy," Mr. Walesa said, explaining his one-man leadership style during the underground struggle that followed the imposition of martial law in 1981.

He also defended his willingness to talk to the Communists.

"We could have gone into the streets and attacked tanks, but we chose an evolutionary path and victory at the lowest cost," he said.

In an apparent reference to Mr. Walesa's presidential aspirations, President Wojciech Jaruzelski reportedly said Friday that "the next government would be populist, nationalistic and totalitarian."

General Jaruzelski, who is serving a six-year term, imposed the martial law.

## Nunn Sets the Terms for Military Debate

By Michael R. Gordon

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Proposals by Senator Sam Nunn on sharply reducing U.S. nuclear and conventional forces in Europe are likely to serve as a benchmark in the developing debate over how to change U.S. military policy and spending plans in light of the reduced Soviet threat.

Mr. Nunn, who as the chairman of the Armed Services Committee is an influential voice on military issues, said this week that the United States should eliminate all its ground-based nuclear missiles and nuclear artillery in Europe.

He also said the United States should no longer assume the main responsibility of defending the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's front lines against a Soviet attack.

Mr. Nunn, Democrat of Georgia, added that the United States should reduce its troop strength in Europe from 305,000 to between 75,000 and 100,000.

The Bush administration has proposed a level of 225,000.

And in another recommendation that goes well beyond the cuts proposed by the administration, Mr. Nunn proposed reducing aircraft-carrier battle groups from 14 to 12 and maybe to 10.

"The question today is not whether we reduce military spending," he said. "That is inevitable. The question is whether we reduce military spending pursuant to a sensible military strategy that meets the threats of today and tomorrow."

Mr. Nunn's speech, delivered in the Senate chamber, was one of the first attempts in Congress to outline a vision for U.S. military forces in a changed world.

Mr. Nunn's proposed cuts and recent recommendations by two Republican members of his committee for deeper budget cuts indicate that the weight of opinion in Congress is against the administration on long-term military spending proposals.

Mr. Nunn has previously accused the Pentagon of failing to develop a coherent strategy, but he had not put forth his own ideas, prompting complaints from some Pentagon officials that he was avoiding a stand on difficult military issues.

Some of what Mr. Nunn said this week echoed well-known Pentagon precepts about the missions that the military should perform.

He said U.S. forces should be prepared to deter an attack on the United States; deter the use of nuclear weapons by the Soviet Union; deter together with allies a conventional Soviet attack in Europe; assist allies in South Korea, the Middle East and elsewhere but not substitute for their military forces; operate in small-scale situations as

in the December action in Panama; keep sea lanes open, and counter drug trafficking, terrorism and other unconventional threats.

But Mr. Nunn differed from the Pentagon when he set forth guidelines for a strategy to carry out those missions.

He said that a revised strategy should aim at deterring a Soviet nuclear attack with significantly lower levels of nuclear weapons.

He added that the number of U.S. forces deployed overseas should be substantially reduced and the military roles of the United States and its allies redefined.

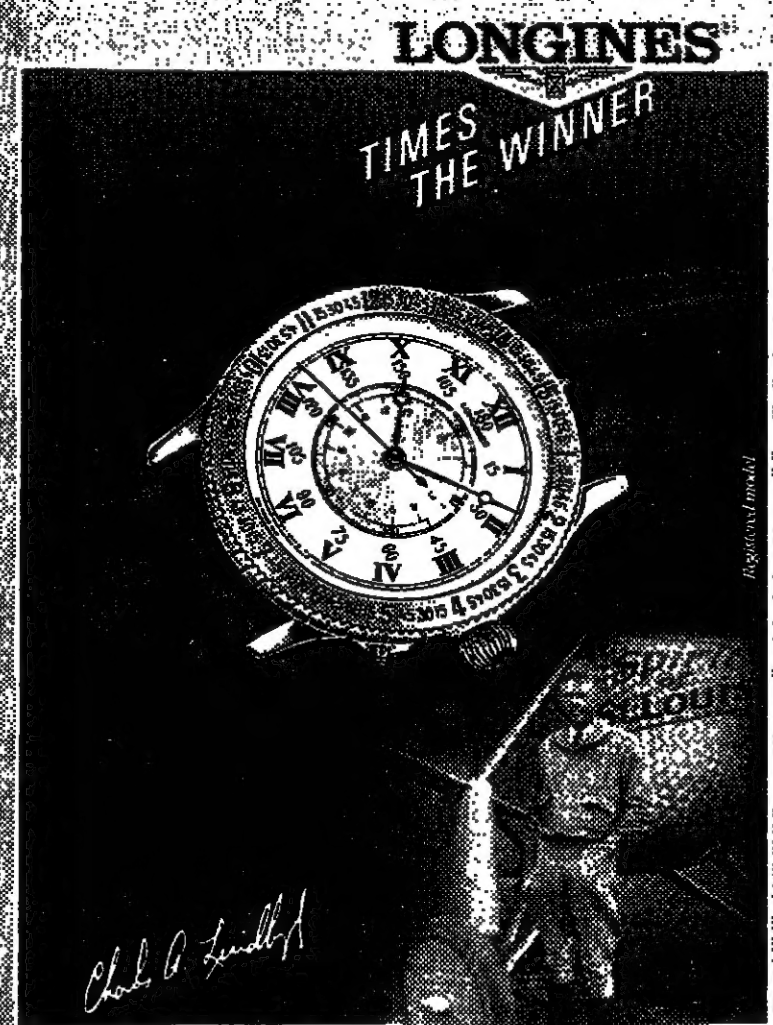
Mr. Nunn said more U.S. forces should be put in the reserves.

■ **Nunn's Budget Suggestion**

Mr. Nunn said Friday that President George Bush's 1991 military

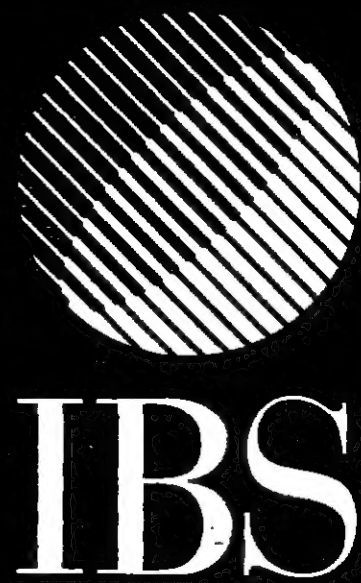
budget must be slashed, but not as severely as proposed by the House Budget Committee. The Associated Press reported from Washington.

Mr. Nunn proposed military spending of \$297 billion for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, which is \$2.5 billion more than the House committee approved on Thursday. Mr. Bush has proposed a \$303 billion military budget.



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## EUROPE: Thatcher Isolated

(Continued from Page 1)

union, said Mr. Delors was delighted by the initiative.

Mr. Haughey, in London on Friday for talks with Mrs. Thatcher, said it was not his purpose to try to talk her into changing her mind.

The West German foreign minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, and his French counterpart, Roland Dumas, are scheduled to explain the proposal in greater detail at a meeting of EC foreign ministers in Dublin this weekend.

The initiative is politically symbolic, because it is the first time since the collapse of communism in East Germany that Paris and Bonn have so emphatically declared their commitment to keeping up the pace of European integration by establishing a timetable for implementation by Jan. 1, 1993.

The Franco-German letter indicated a desire on the part of both senior partners in the EC to dispel fears that the Bonn government's preoccupation with German unity was impeding progress toward European union.

They said the time had come "to transform the whole relationship between member states into a European union and to give it the necessary means to act."

The conference on political union would have the task not only of reinforcing the legitimacy and improving the efficiency of European institutions, but also of setting up a new European security structure that would expand the EC's role into the defense field.

Mr. Mitterrand and Mr. Kohl left no doubt that they want to get "down to business quickly." They called on EC foreign ministers to produce an interim report on the political construction of Europe by the mid-year European summit conference in Dublin in June. They said a final report should be ready by the end of this year.

In calling for an expanded EC role in European defense and security issues, they appeared to be preparing for a future in which the U.S. role in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is greatly reduced. Sam Nunn, the Democrat of Georgia who is chairman of the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee, has called for a smaller and more mobile American military presence in NATO, with as few as 75,000 troops stationed in Europe; there now are more than 300,000.

In Key Largo, Florida, where he flew for talks with President George Bush, Mr. Mitterrand said the intention was "to prepare the Europeans for the idea of playing an increased role in working for their own defense."

"With this in mind," he said, "I suggested to President Bush, and he agreed, that we propose to our allies to hold a summit meeting of the alliance before the end of the year."

## Soviet Economy Nears Crisis, U.S. Says

By Don Oberdorfer

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Soviet economy stumbled badly in 1989, a "near-crisis" that might lead to a precipitous fall, U.S. intelligence agencies reported Friday.

The Central Intelligence Agency and the Defense Intelligence Agency, presenting unusually stark estimates to the Joint Economic Committee of Congress, said that there was no relief in sight for President Mikhail S. Gorbachev's embattled efforts to revive the economy.

"Soviet economic performance was abysmal in 1989 — the worst since Gorbachev took over," said John L. Helgeson, the deputy CIA director.

For the foreseeable future, Mr. Helgeson said in presenting the agency's annual report on the Soviet economy, "the prospect of even a modest economic recovery appears to be remote at best."

This analysis of the economic underpinnings of Mr. Gorbachev's administration appears to have been the basis of a statement April 12 by William H. Webster, the CIA director, that the Soviet Union has entered a "deep and prolonged" crisis.

The intelligence agencies also reported for the first time in unequivocal terms that the Soviet Union is declining as a military power.

Last year, the report said, Soviet arms spending declined 6 percent to 7 percent, overall military spending declined 4 percent to 5 percent and Soviet military forces declined by 200,000 troops.

Saying this is a "very different picture" from Defense Department reports, Senator Jeff Bingaman, Democrat of New Mexico, added, "If these trends continue, we may actually see a significant slowing of the arms race."

In a special summary of the military situa-

tion, the acting deputy director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, Dennis M. Nagy, said that the Soviets are "well on their way" to making good on the unilateral troop and weapons cuts announced by Mr. Gorbachev in December 1988.

The defense agency estimates that Moscow has completed at least half of the tank reductions and about three-quarters of the artillery and combat aircraft reductions that Mr. Gorbachev promised in Europe, Mr. Nagy said.

He also reported that the Soviet Union was following through on cutbacks in Soviet forces along the Chinese-Soviet border and in Mongolia, where the agency estimates that all Soviet ground forces will be gone by the end of 1991.

Moscow will continue to be able to defend its Asian borders, but will be "less capable of offensive operations" than in the past, Mr. Nagy said.

## NATO: France Eases Problems

(Continued from Page 1)

the United States and the Soviet Union — to work together against threats to peace.

The main proponent of this challenge to NATO, according to former Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, "is West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, who hopes that by making NATO appear as a transitory phenomenon, the European security system would become more palatable to the Soviet Union."

Once before, Mr. Mitterrand disregarded the labor on French involvement in NATO when, shortly after his election in 1981, he publicly called on West Germans to accept new NATO nuclear weapons. French concern that developments in West Germany might impel Western security apparently persuaded Mr. Mitterrand again now to show that France did not want the demise of NATO.

Western officials hope to consolidate the alliance's immediate future by holding a summit meeting of NATO leaders before the summit session of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which is scheduled to take place later this year.

While Mr. Mitterrand's agreement to take part in this diplomatic initiative fell far short of a decision by France to rejoin NATO, as Britain has sought, even this modest signal of French support for NATO has strengthened the prospects for preserving a strong U.S. link to Europe, the officials agreed.

Mr. Mitterrand hedged his policy shift by emphasizing his commitment to faster political integration of the European Community, greater European autonomy in defense, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and a European confederation of democ-

racies that might include the Soviet Union but not the United States.

French officials stressed that France had not conceded any ground in its view that the collapse of Soviet power in Eastern Europe offers an opportunity for Western Europe to become more independent of U.S. influence.

"Even if it is remodeled, NATO cannot continue as a U.S.-led club that handles all the security issues affecting Europeans," a French official said.

To dramatize Mr. Mitterrand's status as a Europe-minded leader and provide reassurance about strong cooperation between France and West Germany, a statement by the two countries' leaders, jointly calling on the EC to set in motion a European defense policy, was released in Paris just as Mr. Mitterrand left for talks with Mr. Bush.

But the practical impact of their meeting was that Mr. Mitterrand accepted the broad lines of the U.S. plan — announced in December by Secretary of State James A. Baker 3d — for the future security arrangements in Europe. This included a remodeled but durable NATO, improved U.S. ties with a strengthened EC and a gradually increasing role for the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, particularly in negotiations with the Soviet Union about European security.

Until Mr. Mitterrand spoke, the French position had been to oppose a NATO meeting, preferring instead to emphasize a stronger security role for the EC.

When the Bush administration began pressing last month for tangible allied support for NATO, Mr. Mitterrand apparently adopted the tactic of supporting the U.S. approach for the present while continuing to work for his longer-term vision of a more independent Europe.

## ARMS: Tensions Rise in Germany

(Continued from Page 1)

cow's murky messages about what it expects from a united Germany are seen as standard Soviet negotiating tactics, setting up a hard line to make the West nervous.

"The Soviets are playing for two things, time and dignity," said a U.S. diplomat. "They have too many other problems right now to worry about how to pull out their troops in East Germany. And Gorbachev needs some way to save face. He can't say we lost Germany and we lost the Warsaw Pact and we gave it all to NATO and that's just fine."

In this view, more than anything else, President Mikhail S. Gorbachev needs a good defense against the domestic political argument over "Who lost Germany?" But some Western Europeans offer a more cautious view.

"The Soviets have quite a few cards left to play on German reunification," said Colonel Duncan. "Their troops are there and no one can do anything about that. They could well demand that in exchange for Germany being allowed to stay in NATO, all foreign forces be removed from West Germany."

Western diplomats preparing for the talks are debating how to hold Germany firmly in NATO while also giving the Soviets some breathing room.

American, British, French and West German officials have already agreed that NATO should not station troops in what was East German territory and that Soviet troops should be allowed to remain on East German bases for five to seven years.

But the diplomats plan a tougher position on nuclear forces in Germany, which they say will remain necessary as long as the Soviets still

have major strategic systems aimed at the West.

There will be concessions. President George Bush has already spoken in Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and President Francois Mitterrand about scrapping the long-planned modernization of the Lance short-range nuclear missiles, most of which are now stationed in West Germany and aimed at targets in East Germany.

But the Western powers have agreed they will not accept a Soviet proposal to remove all nuclear weapons from Germany.

"This will not be an easy position to hold, because the West Germans are highly pliable now," a U.S. diplomat said. "They desperately want unification to happen quickly, and they have a big election coming up in December, so they are susceptible to Soviet manipulation."

West Germany has no nuclear weapons of its own, but NATO keeps three kinds of short-range nuclear forces in the country: nuclear artillery shells, Lance missiles and air-delivered missiles.

In the mid-1980s, the Soviet government tried to use the West German popular antipathy toward nuclear weapons to put pressure on Bonn. Hundreds of thousands of West Germans also demonstrated against the deployment of NATO cruise missiles in their country.

"It did not work," a Bonn government spokesman said. "The Soviet pressure was blunt and forceful but the government did not budge."

## \$1.8 Billion for Bangladesh

Reuters

PARIS — International donors have pledged aid totaling at least \$1.8 billion for Bangladesh during the 1990-91 fiscal year.

## Cash Launderers Face Curbs

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Representatives of 15 industrial countries have proposed a broad set of regulatory and banking changes to combat the growing problem of concealing illegal narcotics profits in banks and other financial institutions.

A study panel set up by the Group of Seven was joined by eight others, including Switzerland, Austria and Luxembourg, which are known for bank secrecy.

The participation of these three was taken as a sign that they would support important modifications of their laws and banking practices.

The proposal called for the elimination of anonymous accounts and those held in fictitious names. It asks for greater international coordination among law enforcement and regulatory authorities.

Numbered and anonymous accounts have long frustrated efforts to track down drug money and have kept even bankers from knowing the source of funds.

"It is the single most comprehensive, significant and forceful international declaration on money laundering to date," said John E. Robson, deputy Treasury secretary who headed the American delegation.

The group also proposed an easing of bank secrecy laws to permit bankers to report suspicious deposits and called on prosecutors to develop cases against corporations, not just their employees, which engage in money laundering.

The committee said bankers should be forbidden to tell customers when they are under investigation.

The report is to be on the agenda at the meeting in Houston in July of the Group of Seven — Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, the United States and West Germany. In addition to Switzerland, Austria and Luxembourg, the others are Australia, Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain and Sweden.

## HOSTAGE: White House Calls Delay 'Smoke Screen'

(Continued from page 1)

cases should not be arrogant and waste this chance."

Mr. Bush said Thursday that the United States would not "knuckle under" to demands from kidnappers. He said that the United States had an ambassador in Damascus, Edward P. Djerejian, capable of handling any hostage release.

"Ambassador Djerejian is discussing this issue with the government of Syria," the State Department spokesman, Margaret D. Tutwiler, said Friday. "The Syrians have said they are working toward a hostage release, hopefully by Saturday or Sunday."

## Release Called 'Certain'

Youssef M. Ibrahim of The New York Times reported from Damascus.

Islamic Jihad expressed frustration Friday with what they described as U.S. unwillingness to co-

operate in the release of the captives, but the group also stated that the release of one hostage was "certain" despite complications and delays.

The latest word from the kidnappers came from Mr. Mussawi.

"If someone decides to return a hostage, the other side is supposed to take the hostage," he said in a statement to The Associated Press.

Islamic Jihad postponed on Thursday its promised release of an American hostage, Jesse Turner, a 42-year-old professor, because the United States refused to meet the kidnappers' demand to send Mr. Kelly to Damascus.

Mr. Bush rejected the request because he said it may give the appearance that the United States was engaged in negotiations with terrorists over the hostages.

The president has repeatedly vowed not to negotiate with terrorists.

Mr. Mussawi described the U.S.

attitude as "arrogant cowboy behavior." He added, however, that although it would lead to "certain delay and complications," the release is also certain.

The emerging complication have dampened the enthusiasm expressed by Syrian and Iranian officials until Thursday night that the hostage saga might be drawing to an end.

Syrian officials conceded that they were disappointed that the deadline has set back their public engagement to deliver at least one American hostage by Friday. But they said that they were determined to make such a release happen in the next few days.

"The prestige of Syria is involved," a Syrian official said.

All parties involved — Syrian, Americans, Iranians and the Iranian kidnappers — continued to say that they wanted to pursue the search for a solution.

## CYPRUS: A Jittery Checkpoint

(Continued from Page 1)

rise in provocative acts by Greek and Turkish forces, who face each other across an island-long buffer zone patrolled by UN forces, according to the Canadian UN troop commander, Major General Clive Milner.

Such acts, he says, range from attempts at extending fortified positions into the zone to soldiers baring their backsides at the opposing force from observation posts.

The talks in New York broke down after the Turkish Cypriot leader, Rauf Denktaş, refused to negotiate unless Cyprus's president, George Vassiliou, recognized him as head of an equal state.

In an interview in Nicosia, Mr. Denktaş accused Mr. Vassiliou and the United Nations of gambling that he would not dare sabotage negotiations by rejecting their loose reunification plan.

"But I did," he said.

Mr. Denktaş is moving to ex-

plot the breakdown to strengthen his political position at home. He has resigned as president and called elections for Sunday, in which he is running as an independent.

The Greeks, he said, "must recognize us as an equal people before we join a federation." He also has presented Oscar Camilleri, the UN mediator in Cyprus, with a list of concessions he wants from Mr. Vassiliou before starting talks.

Those include ending the Greek Cypriots' successful campaign to deny Turkish Cyprus such normal trappings of statehood as landing rights for its passenger aircraft in foreign countries, and membership in international bodies.

Mr. Denktaş's tough stand is widely expected to win him another presidential term. But it may not be enough to save his governing National Unity Party from defeat by the opposition Democratic Struggle Party in legislative elections that follow on May 6.

## GUN: Iraq Cargo Seize

(Continued from Page 1)

factory near Birmingham, central England, on March 31.

The state-controlled Athens News Agency identified the truck driver as Paul Ashworth, 25, Northampton, England.

The agency's description of the main pipe appeared to substantiate earlier charges by Western governments that Iraq was preparing "superguns" with a massive barrel capable of bombarding Israel from Iran.

It said the tube was 5.52 meter (17 feet, 10 inches) long, had an outside diameter of 132 centimeters, an interior diameter of 82 centimeters, and had internal rifling.

The tube was declared in customs as "oil drilling machinery" for delivery to the Iraqi Ministry of Industry.

# The U.S. & Europe: Cooperation, Conflict or Crisis?

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ART

# Kees van Dongen: Playful Kitsch and Sensual Images

By Michael Gibson  
International Herald Tribune

**P**ARIS — In his lifetime, and since his death, Kees van Dongen (1877-1968), has too often and too easily been relegated to the flashy demi-monde of art. "Painter of the Lido," was Louis Aragon's term of dismissal in 1935. An exhibition at the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris proposes to revise this assessment and demonstrate the artist's true worth.

Van Dongen, whose father ran a modest oil-processing operation in the lonely polders outside Rotterdam, came to Paris at the age of 20, an ambitious, talented, roisterous youth who earned his living wrestling in fairs and was first classified among the Fauves. "He soon drew attention as a result of the loose, highly charged eroticism of his images and even of his portraits. The extreme use of the colors made his subjects appear disturbingly present, while the heightening of sexual signals (enlarged eyes, hips, breasts and hips) somehow seemed to blur the borders between art and life — the paintings 'lived' actively to be advising the viewer to capture the day."

As early as 1908, Guillaume Apollinaire was savaging van Dongen because his art was, in his view, "unchaste." Momentarily, the stands amazed: Could this have been the same Apollinaire who wrote salacious little novels with cheerfully explicit, eminently usable titles? It could indeed. And, by contrast, did he choose to present a very model of chaste modernity? Well, actually Marie Laurencin. It must be said in his defense that he was sleeping with Laurencin at the time. Ten years later, his amorous rivalries having shifted, he was once more praising the Dutch painter.

But the criticism ("unchaste" — "vulgar" — "prostitute of his talent") did much to shape an ambiguity that is part of van Dongen's approach. He had his own way of playing life and art. Matisse related that in his air of youthful days the owner of the Moulin de la Galette had invited artists to come over and paint on the premises. "Van Dongen was prodigious," he recalled with a touch of envy. "He ran after the dancing-girls and drew them at the same time."

Indeed, van Dongen's dominant theme and passion has always been women — or should one say Woman? And in his treatment, he always made a subject more explicit, more sensual and sexual than other artists.

Matisse is in fact a good foil. The women painted at that time are graceful, chaste and carefully depilated. They dance around swans or recline like cats. Not so van Dongen's. As one critic observed, many of



Self-portrait as Neptune (detail).

them seem quite insatiably to be crying out, "Encore!"

In 1913, in fact, one of van Dongen's paintings was taken down by the police. It represented a standing nude, in honey-colored stockings, lifting a flowered shawl with a gracefully extended arm, to unveil the fullness of her forms. Doves fly about her head while at her feet crouches a dark, suppliant old man.

Van Dongen actually honored a tradition of sorts (Toulouse-Lautrec, for instance), by painting mainly prostitutes and stressing their most hieratic attributes. This trait leads Pierre Schneider, in his book on Matisse, to observe, in an apparent paradox, that van Dongen is "a painter of icons." And he adds, with aphoristic acuteness: "It is color that awakens Byzantium that lies dormant within Pissarro."

Van Dongen was a sociable fellow, both



A sampling from Paris retrospective on van Dongen: left, "La Lecture" (1911) (top) and "La chimère-pie" (1895); above, Jasmy Jacob, 1919.

by inclination and by ambition. He loved parties, disguises and, despite his earlier anarchistic penchants, enjoyed the company of fashionable people. His wife and daughter happened to be in the Netherlands at the outbreak of World War I, and van Dongen began living with Jasmy Jacobs, a woman who earned her living in the realm of fashion and who introduced the painter to society. As a result of this new social situation, many of the artist's later paintings play up to the clichés of fashion, depicting society ladies in a style that calls to mind a cruder remake of portraits by Sargent or Boldini.

In later years he was, in fact, at ease in the world, and his painting lost much of the intensity that it acquires only when a painter is driven by something and is perpetually restoring his balance by way of his art. There is no denying that most of later works have neither the intensity nor the quality of the earlier paintings.

But the earlier paintings remain — and they are impressive and irresistible. And sometimes, too, van Dongen knows how to bring in a touch of humor or of playful kitsch. A painting dated 1911 ("La lecture")

shows an elegant woman reading Rabelais, that Gallic apologist of sensual indulgence, while a black cat looks at the viewer and winks. And who else could have brought off a painting like "Tango," which shows an amorous nude woman, in stockings and high heels, dancing with an enterprising winged figure wearing a tuxedo and — high heels?

Van Dongen died in comfortable circumstances in the south of France, at the age of 91, after overcoming the temporary disgrace of having participated in an official trip to Nazi Germany during the war. Van Dongen

had been on friendly terms with Arno Breker, the "official" sculptor of the Nazis, before the war. Indifferent to political matters and attracted, his critics say, by wealth and power, he failed to realize the impact this trip could have on public opinion.

But his talent was real and it was precious. He was only 18 when he painted his fetish painting, "La chimère-pie," a work he always kept in his studio. It represents a bounding pied horse — the artist's totem and alter ego. Full of enthusiasm, eros and poetic vision, it symbolizes the best of what we still admire in the artist's work.

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## New Delhi, Newest Boomtown for Artists

By Barbara Crossette  
New York Times Service

**N**EW DELHI — This capital city, long scorned by many Indians as a dull bureaucratic town, is suddenly in the middle of an art boom.

Almost weekly, private galleries open in shopping areas, around cultural complexes and in homes, giving contemporary Indian painters, sculptors and photographers more exposure than they have ever enjoyed in modern India.

Artists are working in every medium from terra-cotta, an ancient material now being revived in contemporary ways, to graphics.

In acrylic and oils, nearly all styles are represented, with many painters drawing on Indian themes, several gallery directors say. Not all the work is good, and not all the new galleries will survive. But until the winning starts, a foreign or Indian buyer has a lot to choose from, at prices that begin under \$200.

The art market is fueled by an expanding Indian middle class with money to invest and a new aware-



Sidheshwar Dayal in his newly opened L.T.G. Gallery.

ness of interior design in a country largely indifferent to aesthetics in offices and homes. This makes the art boom a subject of controversy. "To some, this may seem to mean an increase in opportunities

for artists," said Satish Gajral, a leading painter and architect who remembers when New Delhi had only one "gallery," in the corner of a picture framer's shop. "To me it symbolizes only a fashion."

"The growth of commercial galleries will commercialize art," he said in an interview at his home, a virtual museum of Indian crafts and his own murals and other contemporary works. "It will damage more than develop art."

"Today students coming out of school, with no time to gain experience, no time to develop, no time to mature, will be getting buyers," said Gajral, whose work was influenced by his experiences during the Muslim-Hindu massacres in 1947 and by a period spent in Mexico. "When you start selling without maturing, the result is that you start painting what sells."

Roshan Alkazi, director of Art Heritage, a 12-year-old gallery that many consider the city's best, disagrees.

"Commercialization?" she asked. "I don't know what that means. There will always be people selling landscapes or pictures of gods and goddesses. It takes all types to make a metropolis. To me, it is a very healthy sign that more galleries are opening. The more people who buy art, the better."

Alkazi, who with her husband, Ebrahim, opened the Center for

International Contemporary Art in New York two years ago, says the more cosmopolitan Indian middle class now wants works of art for homes and corporate offices. Museums are also buying newer pieces.

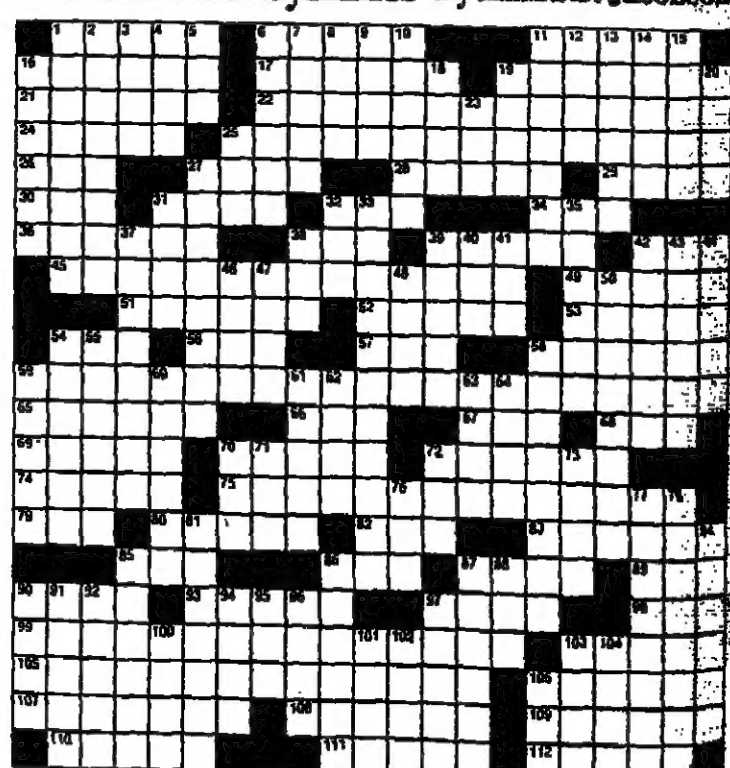
Serious collectors are beginning to emerge. Four decades ago, foreigners bought almost all the art sold here, artists and gallery directors say. Now more than 95 percent of the customers are Indian.

Alkazi says art education is an important part of her job. She devises courses for critics, a new profession in New Delhi, and asks artists whose work she displays to come to the gallery a few hours each day to meet browsers and potential buyers.

The newly rich may make mistakes, but there is an eagerness to learn. "A general awareness of the arts as part of life is growing," said Sidheshwar Dayal, who opened the L.T.G. Gallery this year in a spare room of the Little Theater Group building.

"The role of the gallery is very important now," Dayal said. "Artists like galleries to display their work before selling it. They need this exposure."

### Mideast Monkeyshines By Maura B. Jacobson



© New York Times, edited by Eugene Maletsky.

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Solution to Last Week's Puzzle

DOWN  
1 Philippine  
2 Artery disorder  
3 Of a verse form  
4 Cofy or Clair  
5 G. & S. process  
6 Fuel for a lorry  
7 — to be Yaw, 1924 song  
8 Leopold's co-defendant  
9 Bone: Comb. form

DOWN

- 10 — in the Hat? — Scuse
- 11 Needle-shaped
- 12 DCL doubled
- 13 "Not for these" — The song
- 14 Wordsworth's
- 15 Feeling in Ferrara
- 16 Writer Germaine de —
- 18 Sad
- 19 Wonderstruck
- 21 City on the Ganges
- 26 Ultimatum word
- 28 Tool for Sanyas
- 29 Common Muslim name
- 27 "Death on the Nile" author
- 31 Ill. coal city
- 32 Jackie's second
- 33 Impish
- 35 Nosh's landfill
- 37 Where Arabian knights park their steeds?
- 38 Nanny has three
- 39 Saharan sights
- 40 Plus
- 41 Widmark's first film role
- 42 Radio announcer
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- 44 Chimp's cousin
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- 55 A land of plenty
- 58 Terrible: Slane
- 59 Do tailoring
- 60 Granada gains
- 78 Metrony ladies
- 81 Grand — ruler (B.P.O.E. bugwig)
- 84 Wins
- 85 Thurst
- 86 "Cheers," e.g.
- 87 Brief respites
- 88 Electrical unit
- 90 "Finnegans —": Joyce
- 91 No longer a rumor
- 92 More trendy
- 94 De — ("Green Postures" role)
- 95 Balin or Claur
- 96 Alcott girl
- 97 Requiem
- 100 Mideast word
- 101 Alea!
- 102 Sean the Irish
- 103 Tiff
- 104 Like a crazy bombe
- 106 Rue Morgue murder



# Upbeat Buyers in Downmarket Sales

**International Herald Tribune**  
LONDON — While speculation leads to a slowdown and occasional failure to sell in the upper end of the market, the bottom end continues to thrive and expand. Eagerness to buy has never been so intense nor so wide read. Where left to its own devices, the market simply does not have problems. This could be verified across the board on Tuesday in some of those sales that are so

## SOURIN MELIKIAN

odest and unpretentious that they rarely attract any attention. At Christie's South Kensington, the firm's lesser branch at 85 Old Tooting Road, the subject was "Oriental Ceramics and Works of Art," as it is every Thursday. This can describe anything produced in the Far East, India, the Himalayas, Iran, Turkey or the Arab world at Christie's main branch considers to be beneath its dignity. In the auction world, quality is assessed in cash. If considered to be worth less than £400 (\$650), works of art are ruthlessly sent off to South Kensington, which categorization leaves room for immense diversity and quality.

In the early part of Thursday's sale there was a motley assortment of Far Eastern bronzes. These are the sales in which one can find examples of the academic bronze sculpture that sprang up in Japan when the country opened up to the West, in the late 19th century, and started producing bronze figures halfway between European realism and its own tradition.

A fisherman carrying a basket of fish offered a typical instance. Very well cast, this is "signed," as the catalogue entry perfunctorily notes without bothering to say by whom. You don't have time to consult an authority who can read Japanese when you enter a piece in the £250 league. This fisherman eventually sold for £286. It will be left to the dealer who bagged it to dig further to the question of authorship.

Another bronze category often represented such sales is Chinese bronze vessels made in the 14th century. This is a gray area in which little research has been done. For the time being, dating is problematic, which keeps prices down.

Another reason for low prices is the low esteem in which such bronzes are held. This is because they incorporate a strong revivalist element due to the passionate interest that the Chinese literati displayed, as early as the Song period (11th to 13th century), toward excavated bronzes from ancient China, mostly Shang. The 12th- and 13th-century B.C. motifs were then copied and interpreted, just as the Italian Renaissance copied and interpreted Greek antiquity. But in the eyes of European collectors of Chinese art, this was not, and in the main still is not, worth looking at.

**C**ATALOGUED in the vaguest terms and not much admired, such vessels generally sell for a few hundred dollars and unpredictably. On Thursday, there was a unusual beaker with dragon-shaped handles and four figures of "immortals" cast in low relief. The catalogue put it in the "Yuan/Early Ming" period, meaning roughly anywhere from the mid-13th to the mid-15th century. The vessel went for £330.

A tripod vessel, "probably 17th century," followed and sold for the same amount. A third vessel of oval section, with a revivalist decoration of very fine quality and a good brown patination, shot up to £255, even though it carried the same estimate as the other two pieces. A still bigger surprise came with a large gilt bronze vase of baluster shape. Dragon heads in high relief projected from the neck, spitting out loops that serve as handles. Taotie (mythical beasts of feline appearance) masks of Shang inspiration are cast on all four facets of the body, which is of square section. This is seen as pure kitsch by traditional collectors of Chinese art and would have been unsalable at almost any price until very recently, hence the low £100-£200 estimate given by Christie's for the 14½-inch (37-centimeter) vase. A couple of determined buyers had to bid up to £1,210 to get it, fighting to the finish with a dealer who is probably building up his stock for some future exhibition.

They had better luck with the next piece they wanted, a revivalist interpretation of a 12th- to 11th-century B.C. type known as "ding." The rectangular vessel, possibly of



This 17th-century Chinese vase sold for a surprising £1,210 at Christie's.

the 15th or 16th century, cost them £330, well within the estimated £250-£400 bracket. Their fierce competitor passed on that one. Much the same eagerness to buy could be observed that morning at Christie's main location in St. James's, in a sale of prints of all periods. There were two very different parts to the auction. Old Masters, particularly those with the greatest names — Dürer,

Rembrandt — were mostly represented by impressions that international collectors would not glance at twice. They were either trimmed right up to the plate marks, leaving no margins, or they suffered from foxing (rust stains), creasing, small tears and various repairs, or they were later impressions. In short, the stamp collectors' criteria that prevail in this field with regard to condition placed them in the lowest category. Those who were buying them did so for pleasure or, if they were dealers, did so for clients who neither wish to emulate museums nor to "invest." There could be no better test of the market at its most spontaneous.

Here again, as with the downmarket "Oriental" bronzes, the mood was buoyant. I arrived from Christie's South Kensington as the last of the Rembrandts were being disposed of. A good impression of Albrecht Dürer's "St. Jerome in His Study," of 1514, had just sold for £7,700, far above the high estimate of £3,000. The craving for the great Dutch master appeared to be boundless. "Christ Healing the Sick," a famous plate, was represented by an etching of the second and final state executed around 1649. The caveats in the detailed condition report in the caption — "a small made-up area at the upper left corner, another in the background to the left of Christ's head" — make it sound like a hopeless wreck even if very little of it leaves to the viewer's naked eye. The estimate was £2,000-£3,000 and in the event the print sold for £110,000.

Not all the Rembrandts fared as well, if only because some prints were in even worse condition without being quite as famous and desirable — "The Angel Appearing to the Shepherds" sold for £990, 10 percent below the low estimate. There were hardly any failures, however.

**I**NTERPRETIVE prints, unsalable a few years ago, found favor with the public too. The "Seven Planetary Gods" after H. Goltzius done by Jan Samredam (1565-1607) sold for £1,650, and "The Four Elements" after W. Buytewech etched by Jan van de Velde II (1593-1641) went for £1,210. Indeed, buyers seemed prepared to wax enthusiastic, no matter over what school, Farnes's etching of the Piazza Navona with the church of Sant'Agnes on



Dürer's "St. Jerome in His Study" (1514) fetched £7,700 in London sale.

the left, from his famous "Views of Rome," tripled the high estimate at £2,530. By the end of the sale, Old Master prints had realized £123,508, leaving only 5.5 percent of the total in value unsold.

Characteristically, the Modern and Contemporary Master prints did not do quite so well. Far better preserved, sometimes perfect, but not quite so rare, they too were in high demand. But they had a tendency to sell on the low estimate, from Sybil Andrews's

remarkable "Market Day" (£1,320) to David Hockney's "Sun" (£13,200), a lithograph printed in colors in 1973. Sales rose to £146,575, but 16 percent of the gross total was bought in. Estimates here had been pushed too high, as is the case these days with Modern and Contemporary paintings. No doubt about it: The market has never had it so good. But it would take just that little bit of extra speculative fiddling with reserve prices to run it down.

# The Man Behind the Getty's Spending and Getting

By John Russell  
New York Times Service

**T**HE most envied man in the American museum world is probably George Goldner, curator of paintings and drawings at the J. Paul Getty Museum in Malibu, California. His mandate in both paintings and drawings is to hunt down the best and buy it. Proposed purchases are discussed every two months with the museum's director, John J. Walsh Jr. — George is wonderful at passing the "munition," said Walsh the other day — and they have to be approved by the museum's trustees. But to a geologist rarely rivaled by any other curator, either in the United States or anywhere else, Goldner's is a very spy situation. During the last 12 months the Getty has bought at Christie's a total of a young man by Jacopo Tintoretto for \$35.2 million, Manet's "Rue Mosnier Bedecked With Flags" for \$26.4 million, and an agricultural painting of a man and a man now thought to represent a Promethean for \$17.3 million. In the last month it bought by Vincent van Gogh that it had knocked down for \$53.9 million at Sotheby's in 1987 but never paid for and eventually ne back on the market (though at auction). From this list, and although the quoted price of the "Trises" remains confidential, it is clear that on five paintings alone the Getty

has spent well over \$100 million since Goldner took over his dual duties. (He began to buy drawings for the museum in 1981, took over as acting curator of paintings in March 1989, and was confirmed in that office on Jan. 1, 1990.)

But if we also consider that since January 1989 the Getty has bought drawings by Jacopo Bassano, Honoré Daumier, Albrecht Dürer, James Ensor, Francesco Guardi, G.F. Barbieri (known as Guercino), J.A.D. Ingres, Francesco Primaticcio, Georges Seurat, Jacopo Tintoretto and others, it will be evident that in neither of his departments is Goldner dragging his feet. Both in the auction-room and in private, he has doubtless lived through knuckle-whitening moments when this or that competitor came near to wresting a prize away from him. But, in general, what he goes after, he gets.

And what does he go after? The highest quality, above all. "If I could get 25 great paintings over the next 10 or so years, I'd be pleased," he said the other day. "There are two ways, broadly speaking, in which you can build what is still basically a new museum. You can cover the ground as widely as possible, or you can go for the very best in whatever field it presents itself. The first solution leads to a lowering of the general quality. The second gives the visitor a heightened and intensified experience. Since we put van Gogh's 'Trises' on the wall, the whole museum has a different feeling."

"George knows how to seize his chances," Walsh said last week. "It



Jonathan Payer/The New York Times

Goldner goes for "the greatest things that are to be had."

takes an overreaching gall to push so hard, but the key to George Goldner is his tireless cultivation of every possible source. He goes everywhere. When he's right here, he's always on the telephone. He's a realist about what money will buy today, but he has a vision about the Getty — that it needs the greatest things that are to be had.

There was nothing in Goldner's early career to indicate that he would emerge in his middle 40s as one of the most powerful members of his profession. A graduate of Columbia and Princeton, he took fire, along with so many others,

drawings that would do honor to the museum. His ideas found provisional favor, and in 1981 the project got under way with the purchase of a drawing by Rembrandt of Cleopatra, seen naked with a snake. By the end of 1982, drawings by Bernini, Fragonard, Goya, El Greco, Ingres, Claude Lorrain, Raphael and Rubens had joined the Rembrandt.

When Walsh became director, in 1983, he recommended that a department of drawings should be formally set up with Goldner as its curator. In the following year, a gallery was built for the exhibition of drawings.

"I had a grand design" — so Goldner remembers it now — "of a collection of around 500 drawings that would document the history of drawing in Europe. It would show what was done and how it developed and why it was done. At first I tried not to let reality intrude too directly. If I had dared even to think of what was already in the British Museum or the Louvre when I began to buy drawings, I'd have had to give up."

"When we had got some good drawings together, and people began to think of the Getty as a menagerie to other museums, I went to see the chief curator of drawings in the Louvre. 'How many drawings do you have?' she said. 'Eighty,' I said. 'Well, we have around 80,000,' she said, 'so I don't exactly feel threatened.'"

Today, the Getty's collection of drawings numbers 300. Some of them are by the greatest names and cost a corresponding amount of

money. Some of them are by people like Frans Crabbé van Espelghem, Innocenzo da Imola and Karel Skreka, of whom only the specialist has heard.

"The thing about a collection of drawings," Goldner says, "is that no matter how many you have there's always another one that you feel you can't do without. Even if you had 52 Raphaels, let's say, somewhere there's a 53d one that will pull the whole thing together. I'm very proud of the Dürer 'Stag Beetle' that we got in 1983, and of the study of 'The Good Thief' that came in the same year, but the Dürer design for a signet ring that we found in 1989 gives depth and perspective to the other two, and to our sense of Dürer himself."

Buying great paintings is, on the whole, a very different matter. When they come up at auction, as they often do now, there is a blaze of publicity. People react to the seven or eight figures that will make up the final price as rabbit reacts to weasel.

"It's absurd, really," Goldner said. "When I bought the Raphael drawing at the Chatsworth sale, people stood in line to pat me on the back. But when I got together a group of early German drawings, one by one, and was really rather proud of them, nobody noticed." Goldner said recently that when he first got his job he asked Sir John Pope-Hennessy, probably the foremost art historian of his day, for advice. "Buy boldly!" said Sir John. "Never be afraid! And if your successors don't like what you bought and take it down from the wall — well, so be it."

## OR SALE/SOLD

Rare Rembrandt: One of the last Rembrandt paintings in private hands will be sold in New York on May 31 and is expected to be the \$10.4 million record set for work in 1986. A Christie's spokesman said the painting, "St. Peter in Prison," signed and dated 1711, had been consigned to sale by unidentified private collector. It included in the definitive catalogue of the artist's work by the Rembrandt Research Committee, which in recent years has branded "Rembrandts" as the work of other artists.

Silver Centerpiece: A 17th-century Sicilian table fountain sold in New York for \$2 million, an auction record for a piece of silver.

Christie's announced. The 22-inch (56-centimeter) two-tiered centerpiece, crafted in 1670 by Giuseppe d'Angelo of Messina, was bought by a London silver dealer identified as Armitage, said Doris Athina, a Christie's spokeswoman, who did not reveal the seller's name. The piece was auctioned for \$1,500 in 1947 from the estate of J.P. Morgan.

Hendrix's Woodstock Guitar: The white Fender Stratocaster that Jimi Hendrix played at the 1969 Woodstock festival is expected to fetch as much as £70,000 (\$115,000) at a London auction next week. Hendrix, who died of a drug overdose in 1970, had given

the guitar to his drummer, Mitch Mitchell. Because of the "prohibitive" insurance cost, Mitchell decided to part with it. He plans to give the proceeds of the sale to his daughter. The guitar will be the star attraction of an auction of celebrity memorabilia that includes a cream jumpsuit worn by Elvis Presley in Las Vegas, starting price \$25,000, and two of Marilyn Monroe's evening gowns.

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Herald Tribune  
BUSINESS/FINANCE

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, APRIL 21-22, 1990

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ECONOMIC SCENE

Rise in U.S. Savings Rate  
May Be Statistical Fluke

By John M. Berry  
Washington Post Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — Economists lately had been cheered by calculations that America's stubbornly low savings rate had taken a significant jump in 1989 — a figure closely watched as a measure of the nation's ability to finance its investments. But new information from the Commerce Department indicates that the big jump might not have occurred after all.

The changing view of the savings rate is the result of more complete payroll information indicating that wages and salaries increased by 2.5 percent in 1989, but that the increase in savings was only 1.5 percent. Information from income tax data suggests the earlier wage and salary numbers were inflated.

Since personal saving is not measured directly, but calculated by subtracting what is spent on consumption from what is earned, a rise in savings rate would lower the amount saved by the same amount.

The savings figures will not be officially revised until all of the estimates for the gross national product and national income are dated in July. If there are no other adjustments to the income spending figures other than the \$50 billion change, the personal savings rate for 1989 would come in at about 4.2 percent — the same as the year before.

In recent years, U.S. personal and business savings has not been large enough to cover U.S. investment needs and the federal deficit.

As a result, the United States has had to rely on foreign loans to make up the difference, becoming in the process the world's largest debtor nation.

In making its initial calculations about the U.S. savings rate each year, the Commerce Department relies on information from wage and salary payments from a monthly survey of payrolls at nearly 300,000 businesses conducted by state agencies.

The information comes from only a sample of firms rather than all of them, department statisticians must use the data as a sample from which to come up with an estimate for all payrolls.

LAST YEAR, that extrapolation apparently worked less well than usual, Commerce Department officials said. One problem was that the payroll data do not include bonuses. When bonus payments to workers in the securities industry and to commodity brokers unexpectedly fell sharply last year, the fact that there were 53 Fridays in 1988 rather than 52 — today is the most common payday for Americans — also threw off the extrapolation last year.

A more complete picture about payroll employment, hourly earnings and hours worked gradually emerges as virtually all employers file detailed forms in connection with their federal employment-insurance tax payments.

Information from that source, now available for the first three quarters of last year, shows the \$50 billion overestimate, the officials said.

U.S. Retailers Agree to Reporting Date  
Representatives of America's largest retailers have agreed to close their monthly sales on the same date each month to overcome the confusion created because of differences in some firms' financial years. The New York Times reported from New York.

Jack Schultz, the president of the National Retail Federation's retail services division, said that industry members met Thursday at the federation's headquarters in Manhattan and reached agreement on common reporting dates for the rest of the 1990 fiscal year.

A new schedule on monthly sales data will go into effect with reporting on May 7 of April sales.

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Nigeria  
To Cut  
Payments  
Interest Hike Set  
On Debt to Banks

The Associated Press

LONDON — The Nigerian government has notified its commercial creditor banks that it will unilaterally cut interest payments on some of its debt on May 1, banking sources said Friday.

The country owes commercial banks about \$3.4 billion, out of a total external debt of \$29 billion.

Nigeria would technically be in default of its loan agreements if it goes ahead with the cuts. A spokesman at the Nigerian High Commission in London, who refused to identify himself, said he was not aware of the notification.

Some bankers speculated that the move was a response to oil prices prompted by Nigeria's decision, but others noted that Nigeria demanded sharply lower interest rates at meetings with banks in London on March 19 and 20, before oil prices began to slide.

World oil prices have fallen more than \$2 per barrel in the past two weeks.

Nigeria's current crude production is estimated around 1.8 million barrels a day, 200,000 barrels a day higher than its OPEC quota. The quota is the fifth largest in the 13-nation Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

The banking sources, who demanded anonymity, said Nigeria's central bank sent a letter to its lead banks last week which said that it would maintain its interest payments in April but make reduced payments thereafter.

Bankers said Nigeria had not specified the interest rates it wants. However, in talks with a 10-bank steering committee at the March meetings, Nigerian government officials asked for interest to be fixed at 3 percent annually over 30 years.

Bankers rejected the request. Nigeria pays about 9.5 percent annual interest on its bank debt.

Banking sources said it was too soon to say what the long-term implications were of Nigeria's move. They added that the banks had not received sufficient information from Lagos to explain the action.

Some bankers said they expected a strong backlash from creditors. They said they were mystified by the move, given Nigeria's difficulty in securing concessions from the Paris Club. The club, a government-to-government debt-rescheduling body, has power over the bulk of Nigeria's external debt.

The country owes nearly half of its total debt to Paris Club member governments and has pressed on several occasions for write-offs and softer repayment terms.

Friday's action was foreshadowed at the beginning of the year when Nigeria's military leader, Major General Ibrahim Babangida, said the country's level of debt-service payments was unsustainable and that long-term debt relief would be sought from creditor banks.

Nigeria has also called for the establishment of an international body under the sponsorship of the International Monetary Fund to buy back the debt that African countries owe to commercial banks. No action has been taken on the initiative, however.

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Seoul Retools as Exports Fall

By Peter Maass  
Washington Post Staff Writer

SEOUL — A senior economic official recalls hearing laughter when he told U.S. trade negotiators that South Korea might post a balance-of-payments deficit this year.

The ninth was understandable. From 1986 until this year, South Korea racked up a \$34 billion surplus in its balance of payments, much of it as a result of exports to the United States.

As Hyundai Motor Co.'s fast-selling Excels filled American streets, South Korea seemed on its way to becoming another Japan, another dynamic nation of wide surpluses and closed markets.

But something happened on the way to the bank. South Korea now is running a deficit — a provisional \$645 million in its balance of payments for the first two months of this year — and government officials insist that the days of supercharged surpluses and double-digit growth are over.

While some observers see the current setback as a trial before yet stronger export growth, these officials gloomily say that the magic of South Korea's economic miracle has worn off as the nation suddenly fights for its life in the world's competitive markets.

"What we are seeing right now is a deterioration in our growth, balance of payments and inflation," said Koo Bohm Young, a senior presidential economic adviser who believes it is an illusion for outsiders to view South Korea as another Japan.

Mr. Koo uses the car industry as a symbol of South Korea's troubles. Once-mighty Hyundai saw its U.S. car exports drop more than 50 percent last year, and Mr. Koo worries about the unthinkable — that the country's flagship automaker could be driven out of the U.S. market.

But for many foreign experts, Seoul's statistical and rhetorical turnaround sounds too good to be true — and is too good to be true.

They note that even South Koreans admit that the export economy, like a middleweight boxer moving to the heavyweight division, may be under-

See SEOUL, Page 17

Planners Agree to Fight Inflation

Reuters

SEOUL — South Korea will tighten the money supply, cut government spending, increase exports and cut utility prices to fight inflation, Economic Planning Board officials said Friday.

"Economic ministers agreed that comprehensive measures were necessary to get consumer prices under control," a board official said after a meeting of the ministers.

Consumer prices rose 4.7 percent between Jan. 1 and April 15 this year, compared with the government target of holding the

price rise at between 5 percent and 7 percent for the whole of 1990, the board said.

The board said South Korea's M-2 money supply, which stood 23.7 percent higher in March than a year earlier, would be tightened to slow the year-on-year growth rate to between 15 percent and 18 percent by the end of this year.

"Economic planners would also review this year's budget spending and try to identify items that could be delayed until next year," the official said.

The government would double rice supply from its stockpile and

increase beef imports by up to 10,000 metric tons to help stabilize prices of agricultural products. It would also import construction materials such as cement and steel structures.

Electricity bills would be cut by 5 percent for industrial use and by 3.6 percent for home use, effective from May 1. Tap-gas for cooking will be cut by 6 percent, and charges for intercity telephone calls by 10 percent, also from May 1.

The government will also improve distribution systems for imported goods.

U.S. Policy on Yen Unclear

By Steven Mufson  
Washington Post Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — In the opinion of the U.S. Treasury, the recent decline in the value of the Japanese yen is:

a) A matter of concern.  
b) Of no immediate concern.  
c) Counterproductive and not sustainable over time.  
d) Consistent with relatively stable exchange rates over the past two years.

The answer is e), all of the above.

In the past two days, three top Treasury officials have testified before Congress and walked a fine line between expressing alarm and indifference over the recent 10 percent decline in the yen's value against the dollar.

Answer a) was given in the just released Treasury report to Congress on International Economic and Exchange Rate Policy. Answer b) was given by Treasury Secretary Nicholas F. Brady at a hearing; answer c) by the assistant secretary for international affairs, Charles H. Dallara, and by the undersecretary for international affairs, David C. Mulford, and answer d) by Mr. Brady.

Curiously about Treasury's views on exchange rates has been piqued by the recent sag in the value of the yen and concern in some circles that a weak yen could make Japanese exports cheaper for

Americans and thus enlarge the already huge trade deficit the United States has with Japan.

Moreover, following the recent meeting in Paris of the Group of Seven finance ministers, foreign exchange traders have been wondering what agreement, if any, the ministers of the seven largest industrial democracies made to intervene in foreign exchange markets. As usual, the finance ministers have been cagey about their planned response.

The gist of Treasury's position seems to indicate concern, but not alarm. On the concern side, Mr. Mulford said in testimony Thursday that "the depreciation of the yen and Japan's relatively closed markets are not sustainable over time as their continuation would pose important risks for the world economy."

The Treasury report noted, however, that while the value of the dollar versus the yen has risen 30 percent since its December 1987 low, it remains 40 percent below the peak the dollar reached in February 1985. The report also said that while the dollar has risen against the yen, it has weakened by 13 percent against European currencies, thus keeping the prices of most foreign imports high.

Moreover, Mr. Mulford said, if Japan raised its interest rates to boost the value of the yen, it could slow economic growth and reduce Japan's demand for imported goods.

Ambition among Nisei Gakuin's students seems somewhat more contained. While their family businesses range from manufacturing to property development, they share the dream of expanding into new fields, mostly leisure-related industries such as resort development, golf-course membership and auto dealing — all of which reflect the expensive hobbies and free atmosphere with which they grew up.

Japan, indeed, has changed since their fathers started out. According to estimates by Nisei Gakuin instructors, about 60 percent of the first-borns in line to inherit companies do not want to take responsibility for them because they are already living rich and comfortable lives.

While directors maintain their order for becoming an Asian Harvard, Nisei Gakuin's first mission seems to be to convince students to open wide, swallow, and succeed their fathers. Practical management know-how comes later.

"Ten million yen is an investment to give a young person the self-confidence to understand that he was given the rare privilege of owning a company," said Yasumi Iwagami, an author on social issues. "To his parents, it is not expensive."

Generation Business School, is simply taking care of business.

It does so by concerning its students with the practical challenges of business and eschewing the theoretical — one reason Nisei Gakuin is not accredited by the Education Ministry. As part of its hard-nosed curriculum, for instance, students use computer games to learn how to make important decisions quickly.

"Our students should not spend too much time studying general subjects, such as foreign languages, as they have to at a normal university," said Fumihiko Shibasaki, the school's planning officer. "A company president can always hire an interpreter."

Nisei Gakuin is also meant to challenge the commonly held view that a degree from an elite university such as "Tokyo" or "Keio" University is known, is essential for success in Japan's hierarchical business world. About half of Nisei Gakuin's students are high school graduates who chose the school as

an alternative to university, rather than as a post-graduate course.

"Our students don't need nice degrees simply because they do not have to look for jobs," said Mr. Shibasaki.

Although Nisei Gakuin is advertised as a school of modern management, its executives admit that *jinryaku*, or "connections," are among the best things it provides. Among the board members are a number of prominent business leaders, including Isao Nakaguchi,

chairman of Daiichi Inc., a national supermarket chain; Noboru Makino, director of Mitsubishi Research Institute; and Shochiro Toyoda, president of Toyota Motor Corp.

These and other executives lecture at Nisei Gakuin from time to time, stay in close touch with the students, and will stay in close touch with them after they graduate. Small wonder that enrollment grew from 17 a year ago to 40 for the school year that begins this month, despite the 10 million yen (\$63,000) cost of the program.

This spring, Nisei Gakuin started two new courses, a four-year program in international management, costing 12 million yen, and a two-year executive secretary course for women, costing 3.5 million yen. They are to train company executives and secretaries to support the heir and president, more than 80 young Japanese applied.

"We intend to make Nisei Gakuin a prestigious business school in 10 years," said Mr. Shibasaki.

U.K. Fund Bid  
Values Globe  
At £1.03 Billion

Reuters

LONDON — British Coal Pension Fund launched Friday a bid for Globe Investment Trust PLC that values the world's biggest mutual fund at £1.03 billion (\$1.69 billion) and was seen as a vote of confidence in the London stock market.

The pension-fund group said it had built up a holding of 33.8 percent in London-based Globe, passing the 30 percent level at which a bid becomes obligatory. It is offering 191 pence per share for the rest of Globe.

The announcement cheered the London Stock Exchange, where prices had appeared set to follow Wall Street and Tokyo lower. The Financial Times 100-share index edged up 2.4 points by the close, to 2,187.1. Shares had been battered this week by heightened concern about domestic inflation, plunging international bond markets and a slide on Wall Street.

Globe's shares rose 11.5 pence, to 186 pence, following the announcement.

Analysis said the bid for Globe is a boost for the stock market because it demonstrates the confidence of a major institutional investor.

Garth Milne, an analyst at S.G. Warburg & Co., said the bid may alter underlying market sentiment, which hit its lowest level this year on Thursday. "Maybe we should be rethinking our stance," he said.

Globe said its board of directors would be meeting late Friday to consider the bid and recommended

that shareholders take no action in the meantime. The government's Office of Fair Trading said it might examine the bid for a possible reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Analysts said the bid made good sense for state-owned British Coal's pension fund, as it was buying investments held by Globe at a discount to the open market.

"From British Coal Pension Fund's point of view it's a good deal," said Robin Angus, analyst at Country Natwest WoodMac. "They can now buy into equities at a considerable discount free of all transaction charges such as brokers' fees and stamp duty and so on."

However, Mr. Angus said he was concerned that the current revival of the investment-trust sector, which has seen relatively few bids by outside companies, may be threatened by the



## MARKET DIARY

## U.S. Deficit Weighs On Stock Market

**United Press International**  
NEW YORK — Stocks closed broadly lower in active trading on the New York Stock Exchange on Friday, following Treasury bonds lower after the government reported a surprisingly big federal budget deficit for March.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 15.99 points, to 2,695.95.

## N.Y. Stocks

The gauge has fallen more than 70 points in the last three sessions. The New York Stock Exchange index fell 1.48, to 184.09, and Standard & Poor's 500-stock index eased 2.97, to 335.12. An average share lost 27 cents.

Steeper losses were cut near the close on buying related to expiration of stock-index futures and options. Declines pummeled advances by an 8-3 ratio. Big Board volume rose to 174.26 million shares from 152.93 million traded on Thursday.

The market opened weaker and then was driven lower by program selling. Adding to the losses were a

\$53.3 billion March budget deficit, higher than the \$42.8 billion expected, and rising bond yields. The bellwether 30-year Treasury bond ended with a return of 8.93 percent, up from 8.59 percent a week ago and the highest level in almost a year.

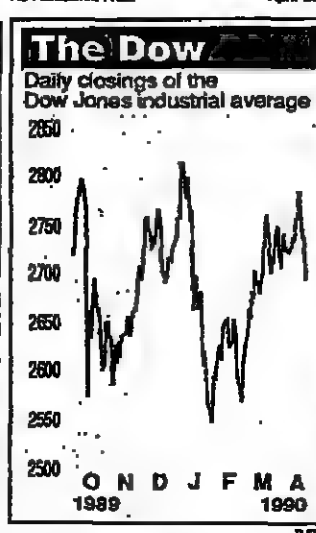
"The deficit was a real shock to the markets," said Hugh Johnson, chief economist at First Albany Corp. in Albany, New York.

"It dramatizes what the problems are, that the economy is slowing and it reflects the costs of the tight budget," he said. "It also creates demands on the bond market at a time Japan has chosen to pull away."

Harcourt Brace Jovanovich was the most active issue, off 1/4 to 4 1/2. It has been heavily traded this week amid takeover speculation involving Thomson Corp. of Toronto.

General Motors followed, up 1/4 to 47 1/2. Philip Morris was third, down 1/4 to 41.

Banking issues weakened after Moody's Investors Service's decision to place the debt of Citicorp under review for a possible downgrade. Citicorp lost 1/2 to 23 1/2.



## NYSE Diary

Advanced	Declined	Unchanged
101	81	11
Total Issues	192	93
New Highs	12	14
New Lows	12	12

## Amex Diary

Advanced	Declined	Unchanged
210	224	24
Total Issues	458	34
New Highs	18	39
New Lows	22	22

## NASDAQ Diary

Advanced	Declined	Unchanged
744	829	225
Total Issues	1,573	431
New Highs	120	120
New Lows	120	120

## NYSE Most Actives

Symbol	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
IBM	1,119	120 1/2	120 1/4	120 1/2	+1/4
AT&T	1,019	11 1/2	11 1/4	11 1/2	+1/4
SP500	1,019	335 1/2	335 1/2	335 1/2	-2 9/16
IBM	1,019	120 1/2	120 1/4	120 1/2	+1/4
AT&T	1,019	11 1/2	11 1/4	11 1/2	+1/4
SP500	1,019	335 1/2	335 1/2	335 1/2	-2 9/16

## AMEX Most Actives

Symbol	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
IBM	1,119	120 1/2	120 1/4	120 1/2	+1/4
AT&T	1,019	11 1/2	11 1/4	11 1/2	+1/4
SP500	1,019	335 1/2	335 1/2	335 1/2	-2 9/16
IBM	1,019	120 1/2	120 1/4	120 1/2	+1/4
AT&T	1,019	11 1/2	11 1/4	11 1/2	+1/4
SP500	1,019	335 1/2	335 1/2	335 1/2	-2 9/16

## Dow Jones Averages

Open High Low Last Chg.

Indus. 2703.34 2722.07 2684.07 2695.95 -16.92

Transp. 118.41 118.90 118.07 118.41 -0.49

Comp. 1003.87 1008.39 997.86 1007.71 -7.10

NYSE Composite 184.09 184.58 183.61 184.09 -1.48

AMEX Composite 23 1/2 23 3/4 23 1/4 23 1/2 -1/4

NASDAQ Composite 335 1/2 335 3/4 335 1/2 335 1/2 -2 9/16

Standard & Poor's 500 335 1/2 335 3/4 335 1/2 335 1/2 -2 9/16

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## Currency Options

PHILADELPHIA EXCHANGE

Open High Low Last Chg.

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**April 20th, 1990**

Investor Cashflow	\$	100.70	(w) GAIM (CH) America	5F	1204.00	(d) Int.America Fund	1675
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Investor Holdings	\$	15.50	(w) GAIM (CH) Mondial	5F	1281.94	(d) Europe Fund	673.00
Reserv. Multi-Global	FCU	71.48	(w) GAIM (CH) Pacific	5F	1628.08		

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Be sure that your fund is listed in this space daily. Telex Simon OSBORN at 613595F for further information.

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## ASIA / PACIFIC

## Famine to Feast in Vietnam

After Dramatic Rice Gains, Country is No. 3 Exporter

By Keith B. Richburg

VINH LONG, Vietnam — Two years after its communist rulers made an international appeal for emergency food aid to avert famine, Vietnam has transformed its agricultural system, boosting productivity and catapulting itself into the position of a world's third-largest rice exporter in 1989.

Most of the increased production has come here in the country's agricultural heartland, the fertile Mekong Delta in what was formerly South Vietnam. Operating under new rules from Hanoi that

we provinces a freer hand to sell their products abroad, the delta accounted for more than 90 percent of Vietnam's rice exports last year.

The dramatic turnaround in rice production is far the most concrete and visible success story of a three-year economic-reform program that has

own only modest results in other key sectors.

Vietnam exported 1.4 million metric tons of rice last year, behind only the United States and Thailand.

The trend has continued this year, with exports exceeding 200,000 and 300,000 metric tons of rice in the first three months of 1990, according to agricultural officials.

Here in coastal Con Long Province, farmers produced a record 1 million tons of rice last year, and agricultural officials are hoping for 1.2 million in 1990.

The province produced so much rice last year that officials are still having trouble processing it.

Their antiquated mills and finding markets abroad. A local official said farmers are storing

rice in their houses until the government can find buyers, much of it may end up being fed to pigs.

Nguyen Van Ba, the provincial official in charge of agriculture, attributed the increase to improvements in the province's aging irrigation system that

lowered farmers to make use of idle lands and cut two rice crops each year instead of one. He

id the central government's economic reform program, giving farmers lifetime tenancy on

land was "like a key that opened the door to easier production."

While farmers complain that the government pays them too little for their rice, many here in the delta have nonetheless been able to improve

their lifestyles significantly, using their new earnings

to invest in consumer goods and to upgrade their farming equipment.

Although much of the increase has occurred in the Mekong Delta, even the northern half of the country has produced more rice. The increased

production has allowed the central government to build up its badly depleted rice reserves — though the numbers are still considered a state secret.

With new reserves, Hanoi has been willing to allow the more prosperous provinces in the south to export rice that previously had been needed to

avert famine.

It is the north, with its harsh typhoon weather, that has traditionally run short of rice between

harvests, forcing the government to ship in large amounts from the more fertile south. In 1988, it

was in the northern coastal provinces of Thanh Hoa and Nghe Tinh that the government said

peasants were facing widespread famine and had to eat their seed stocks to stay alive.

While the south owes its increased production primarily to technical improvements, like the new canals in Con Long, the north's gains are almost

entirely due to Hanoi's economic reforms and the loosening of the Communist grip over

agricultural life.

Unlike the formerly capitalist south, the northern provinces went through a lengthy period of

collectivization and cooperative agriculture that the party has only recently scrapped in favor of

free-market principles.

The most important change, according to Vietnamese agriculture officials and foreign experts,

was the decision to abolish costly state subsidies that kept the price of rice artificially low and

created a two-tier system of state and market prices.

Because city dwellers and government employees were given rations to buy certain amounts of

rice at the cheaper, state-subsidized price, they tended to buy rice and hoard it when they did not

need it.

Under the new system, the state subsidies were eliminated, salaries were increased and people

were told to buy their rice at markets. Economists and agricultural officials said that because of this

change, people are now buying only the rice they need.

Larsen Battle Averted  
As Ambani Steps Down

NEW DELHI — Dhirubhai Ambani has resigned as chairman of Larsen &amp; Toubro Ltd., averting a

stormy proxy battle to sack him, officials of the major Indian engineering company said Friday.

The compromise, worked out in New Delhi with Finance Minister Madhu Dandavate, ended a showdown between one of India's leading industrialists and the new government of Vishwanath Pratap Singh.

Mr. Ambani, chairman of the textiles conglomerate Reliance Industries Ltd. and a supporter of the former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, took control of Larsen in 1988 in a controversial share-buying deal.

The state-run Life Insurance Corp. dropped a demand for an emergency shareholders' meeting to sack Mr. Ambani and three other

Reliance directors from Larsen's board — including Mr. Ambani's two sons — in the compromise deal.

In exchange, state financial institutions, which own more than one-third of Larsen's stock, have

succeeded in naming the retired Bank of India chairman, D.N. Ghosh, as the new Larsen chairman, an official

familiar with the negotiations said.

Reliance held nearly 34 percent of Larsen & Toubro shares and state institutions about 37 percent.

The rest of the stock is widely spread among 1.2 million shareholders.

Larsen's shares fell 17 rupees (98 U.S. cents) to 75 rupees on Thursday, before Mr. Ambani announced he was quitting. They

traded at 120 rupees when Life Insurance Corp. demanded the shareholders' meeting late last month.

Mr. Ambani, in a statement announcing his resignation, referred to market-depressing fears of a takeover by India and Pakistan as his reason to quit. "This is a moment

when all Indians must work together in a spirit of constructive endeavor," he said.

Mr. Dandavate, the finance minister, told parliament that the Gandhi government had put pressure on a subsidiary of the state-owned Bank of Baroda in 1988 to sell

Reliance 7 percent of Larsen's shares.

Mr. Dandavate said he was happy the affair had ended honorably. Mr. Singh, the prime minister,

commented against big business ties with government in November's general election. The new government has sacked the Bank of Baroda chairman, Premjit Singh,

and dissolved the subsidiary that sold Larsen's shares to Reliance.

Separately, Larsen & Toubro reported financial results Friday that a spokesman said are its best ever.

Pretax profit for the year ended March 31 rose to 5.0 billion rupees, from 3.3 billion in 1988-89, while

earnings per share rose to 6.6 rupees from 4.9, on enlarged capital.

Sales rose to 9.83 billion rupees from 7.23 billion the year before and Larsen said it expects revenue

to reach 13.9 billion rupees in the current, 1990-91 year, the spokesman said.

Commenting on Bond Corp. Holding's six-month financial results earlier this month, Mr. Lucas said the company would cut its debt

by 600 million Australian dollars (\$462.3 million) with the sale of the Chilean stake, Bond Corp., which

had a 75.1 million Australian dollar loss in the first half of its financial year, had debt of 6.67 billion

Australian dollars, he added.

In February, Mr. Lucas said Bond International was willing to sell the Italian real estate interest

and its 85 percent stake in a Chinese brewing venture.

Last year, minority shareholders in Bond International rejected an attempt by Alan Bond to return the

subsidiary to full control by Bond Corp.

Without the aid, thousands of unprofitable state-run enterprises could fail, throwing millions out of work and adding to a serious unemployment problem.

The subsidies also allow the government to disguise inflation — one cause of the anti-government unrest that was crushed by the army in Beijing last June.

The newspaper said the government has kept grain prices for city dwellers largely unchanged for more than a decade despite rising

payments to farmers.

In a front-page editorial on Friday, the Communist Party newspaper said the party had to recognize

that economic reconstruction's central purpose was to ensure stability.

Payout Talk  
Boosts Stock  
Of Bond Int'l

HONG KONG — Stock in Bond Corp. International, the Hong Kong-listed subsidiary of

Australia's Bond Corp. Holdings, rose a sharp 10 percent Friday on speculation that a generous special

dividend is imminent, brokers said.

The stock rose to 2.125 Hong Kong dollars (27.3 U.S. cents), up 21.5 cents, after Bond International

announced a board meeting had been set for Wednesday to consider

a proposal to pay a special dividend.

Bond International sold its 52 percent stake in Compania de Telefonos de Chile SA for 3.03 billion

dollars to Telefonos de Spain.

"The market is expecting a special dividend of one dollar to 1.5

dollars per share from BCIL's sale of Chile Telephone," said a chief

broker at a major financial house.

Brokers said Bond International stock's surge during the day was

also fueled by a rumor that one or more investors are pondering

whether to launch a takeover bid for Bond International at a price of

around 2.80 dollars a share.

The company is also expected to decide whether to acquire the

remaining 50 percent interest in its Rome property project at or before

the board meeting, analysts said.

Modemization would involve Timah's 31 dredgers and its workshops.

"We have to modernize. There's no other way," Mr. Kuntoro said.

"Our dredgers need to be rehabilitated very soon. Our resource management needs to be changed from

onshore to offshore."

The goal, he said, was to put Indonesia on a par with Brazil, its

main competitor, which has a production cost of \$5,000 a ton or less.

Indonesia is the largest of the Association of Tin Producing Countries, with exports of 29,900 tons in 1989.

Of that, 23,000 tons came from Timah and the rest from PT Koba Tin, an Australian company.

ATPC comprises Australia, Bolivia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Thailand and Zaire. Brazil and

China are the largest tin producers outside the group.

The price of tin closed Thursday in London at \$6,555 a ton for delivery in three months.

Referring to Brazil, which he blamed for the current low prices, Mr. Kuntoro said, "We will compete with those cheap tin price producers. We know this is not easy

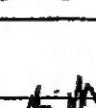

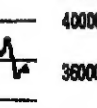
but we will do it."

He said he expected Timah's profit to plunge to 11 billion rupiah (about \$6 million) this year from 90 billion last year.

"If you say it is a total overhaul, I think you are right, because that is the only way if we want to compete in the world tin market," he said.

"This should have been done when the tin price crashed five years ago."

## Investor's Asia

Investor's Asia				
Hong Kong Hang Seng		Singapore Straits Times	Tokyo Nikkei 225	
				
Exchange	Index	Friday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	3076.30	3067.87	+0.28
Singapore	Straits Times	1520.56	1529.02	-0.55
Sydney	All Ordinaries	1492.20	1495.20	-0.20
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	29835.00	29945.00	-0.37
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	541.88	546.47	-0.84
Bangkok	Book Club	730.70	725.88	+0.66
Seoul	Composite Stock	767.45	768.31	-0.11
Taipei	Weighted Price	461.82	8830.57	-94.77
Manila	Composite	1075.31	1084.67	-0.86
New Zealand	Barclays	1747.57	1727.61	+1.16
Bombay	National Index	418.06	409.55	+2.08

Source: AFP

International Herald Tribune

Indonesia's Tin Giant  
Plans Restructuring

JAKARTA — PT Tambang Timah, the state-owned tin company that is one of the world's largest,

said Friday that it is seeking loans for a five-year plan that involves overhauling the company and

sharply cutting production costs.

"I have contacted the World Bank in Washington and they have agreed to send officials to visit

Jakarta in June to study our situation," said the company's president,

Kuntoro Mangkusubroto. "We'll decide then how much we need."

He said Timah wanted to cut production costs to \$4,500 dollars a ton from the present \$5,700 to

\$6,000 while increasing annual output capacity to at least 27,000 metric tons (25,700 short tons) from

23,800 metric tons.

Modernization would involve Timah's 31 dredgers and its workshops.

"We have to modernize. There's no other way," Mr. Kuntoro said.

"Our dredgers need to be rehabilitated very soon. Our resource management needs to be changed from

onshore to offshore."

The goal, he said, was to put Indonesia on a par with Brazil, its

main competitor, which has a production cost of \$5,000 a ton or less.

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"This should have been done when the tin price crashed five years ago."

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change, people are now buying only the rice they need.

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change, people are now buying only the rice they need.

## Hanoi Readies Banking Overhaul

HANOI — Vietnam is preparing to restructure its banking system, using commercial banks to

ter to market-oriented firms, a top state bank official said Friday.

Nguyen Cong Hai, deputy director of the bank's foreign department, said a government decree that is expected to be

passed by mid-year would also provide a framework for foreign banks to operate in Vietnam,

with their presence would not be immediately encouraged.

Mr. Hai said the decree would set out conditions for establishing independent commercial banks, including reserve requirements,

operating rules and the management qualifications needed to set up a bank.

This would be the biggest step in breaking down the centralized socialist banking system,

process began in July 1988, when the sector was divided into central bank and various

local banks, including agricultural investment and trade.

Now all (commercial) banks will be able to carry out transactions in all fields," Mr. Hai said

in an interview.

The draft decree was drawn up over the last few months and was scrutinized by an International Monetary Fund team which

helped guide the reform program.

Although full details of the decree were not yet available, Mr. Hai said it would allow the

creation of different financial institutions, including credit companies and joint-stock banks.

The decree would also deal with foreign banks, which have shown increasing interest in

operating in Vietnam as its reforms, launched three years ago, have

started to revitalize the moribund economy and attract foreign investment. Their presence

would not be encouraged at this stage, Mr. Hai said.

"For the time being we are not closing our doors, but we are opening our doors widely to encourage them to come," Mr. Hai

said. "We must establish our own system before it can compete with foreign banks."

He said five or six French banks have representative offices in Hanoi and in the south, but no branch offices or joint venture banks had been licensed.

Vietnam recognizes the value of foreign banks, Mr. Hai added, saying they would help mobilize foreign funds, act as an example for Vietnamese banks and help with training.

"But for the time being we could not compete with them," he said. The government is working on legislative and administrative changes to keep up with liberal economic reforms under which it

slashed subsidies, exposed prices and supplies to market forces and eased central control.

Mr. Hai said a second decree would allow the state bank to regulate credit funds that sprang up in the face of tight credit

controls by state banks.

The funds, which were licensed by Communist Party committees and did not come under state bank supervision, were established with high deposit and loan interest rates.

They have now fallen on hard times, Mr. Hai said.

Beijing Under Pressure  
To Reduce Subsidies

BEIJING — China may reform its costly subsidy program, which

baits out failing industry and keeps prices artificially low, in what

Western diplomats said could be a shift away from Marxist economic policy.

The China Daily on Friday quoted financial experts as recommending an overhaul of the subsidies, which now account for more

than one-third of state spending.

The experts "said they believed the irrational subsidizing structure should be reformed and the ever-increasing amount of subsidies

curbed," the newspaper reported.

Western diplomats said the article showed mounting pressure for a return to economic policies that

lost favor after hardliners wrested control of the Communist Party from reformers last June.

China this year will spend \$21 billion to keep loss-laden enterprises from collapsing and to lower

prices for grain, cotton, oil, meat and vegetables.

But the newspaper, quoting Ministry of Finance sources, noted that the published subsidy figure does not include grants for housing,

public transportation, water, power, gas, free medical treatment

and other forms of assistance paid for by local governments.

"The figure could actually be much larger, if the subsidies not reflected in the budget are included," the newspaper quoted a source

as saying.

A Western diplomat said: "The problem is huge and the government is finally having to face up to it."

"The only way to deal with the problem of subsidies is through price changes. The appearance of this article is a subtle shift back

towards more economic-reform minded ideas," the diplomat said.

The subsidies have been a key form of social control.

Without the aid, thousands of unprofitable state-run enterprises could fail, throwing millions out of work and adding to a serious unemployment problem.

The subsidies also allow the government to disguise inflation — one cause of the anti-government unrest that was crushed by the army in Beijing last June.

The newspaper said the government has kept grain prices for city dwellers largely unchanged for more than a decade despite rising

payments to farmers.



SPORTS

# Lone Goal Gets Bruins By Montreal in Game 1, Rangers Rout Capitals

The Associated Press  
The two best defensive teams in the National Hockey League, Boston and Montreal, did nothing to spoil their reputations in their play-off opener.

Dave Poulin's second-period power-play goal and Andy Moog's first career playoff shutout gave the Bruins a 1-0 victory over the Canadiens.

## NHL PLAYOFFS

Montreal pulled Roy for an extra skater with 1:02 left, and John Carter of Boston was penalized for high-sticking with 48 seconds to go. Montreal, with a two-man advantage, swarmed around Moog but could not get a shot on net.

Rangers 7, Capitals 3: Nicholls gave the Rangers a 1-0 lead with the only goal of the first period, then gave them some insurance with a goal at 11:49 of the final period after the Capitals had reduced New York's 3-0 lead to 4-3. After Mike Gartner's power-play tip-in at 17:36 to complete his hat trick.

The best-of-7 series resumes in New York on Saturday night.

It was the second playoff hat trick in as many games for the Rangers, who had gone 10 years without one until Gartner scored three times in the opening-round clincher against the New York Islanders.

Bob Rouse got the Capitals on the scoreboard, and after John Osgoodnick of New York beat Mike Liut at 5:55, John Druce and Scott Stevens scored to close the gap to 4-3 midway through the period.

But Nicholls put the game away when he scored at 11:49. Gartner, who played nearly 10 seasons in Washington, finished off his old master when he tipped in a point shot by Randy Moller at 13:26.

Poulin's goal came after Patrick Roy made a pad save on a 40-foot (12-meter) slap shot by Ray Bourque. Randy Burridge of Boston swiped at it and missed, but Poulin

# Sweden Tops Team U.S.A.

The Associated Press  
BERN — Team USA suffered its fourth loss in four games at the World Hockey Championships Friday, beaten by Sweden, 6-1. The loss virtually ended the Americans' chances of making the medal-round next week.

A penalty all but killed U.S. hopes of a comeback against the Swedes with the score 3-1 in the third period.

Kevin Stevens, a wing who plays for the Pittsburgh Penguins, scored off his own rebound at 10:48. But Minnesota's Mike Modano took a hooking penalty 51 seconds later. Patrik Erickson scored his second goal of the night for Sweden on the ensuing power play, making the score 4-1.

"That was probably decisive for the game," said Ben Smith, the U.S. assistant coach.

Steve Yzerman, captain of the Detroit Red Wings, struck again, scoring two goals as Team Canada remained unbeaten and scored its fourth victory, routing newcomer Norway 8-0 in another fourth-round game.

# Falcons Counting on Top NFL Draft Pick to Alter Fortunes

By Thomas George

New York Times Service  
NEW YORK — The National Football League's 55th annual draft of college players on Sunday is ordinary in this respect: speculation about which players are coveted most is answered with more speculation, and questions about which teams will be most active with trades are answered with more questions.

This much appears certain: Jeff George, a junior quarterback from Illinois with a rifle arm and professional poise, will be the first player selected. But another question follows: by whom?

The Atlanta Falcons have the first pick and have played cat-and-mouse with their intentions. The latest is that they have made a deal with the Indianapolis Colts that will send George to Atlanta, if the Colts can sign George before the weekend. Will it stick?

The Colts desperately want George because he is from Indiana.

"I think you always listen to anything anybody has to say," said Jerry Glavine, the Falcons' new head coach fresh from a four-year stint as head coach of the Houston Oilers. "Jeff George will be the No. 1 pick by somebody. If we're there, we'll take him."

Late Thursday, George's agent, Leigh Steinberg, said that the Falcons had made a deal with the Colts for two players, a fifth-round choice this year and a 1991 first-round draft choice for the No. 1 selection.

"We have come to an agreement on what we'll give up," Jim Irsay, general manager of the Colts, said. "Now we're trying to wind up the deal."

Falcons officials declined to comment, but Steinberg said he was confident that a deal with the Colts would be reached in time.

What Glavine hoped would happen, and, according to Steinberg, has happened, is that Atlanta is getting the players it wants.

In exchange for the top choice, Indianapolis would send Andre Rison, a receiver, and the six-time Pro Bowl offensive tackle, Chris Hinton, to Atlanta. Glavine believes those two players are just the infusion his young team needs. With this deal, the Falcons could still gain plenty in the first round with their No. 20 pick obtained from the Washington Redskins in a trade last year for Gerald Riggs, a running back.

With promising players like Aumday Bruce at linebacker, Deion Sanders at cornerback, Shawn Collins at wide receiver and John Serrle at running back, the Falcons believe they are on the right track. Glavine is expected to light a fire, to get great players, to play great.

Atlanta was 54-81-1 in the 1980s with only one winning season under three different head coaches. Marion Campbell was the last of the three, with his three-year stint ending last season as Atlanta finished 3-13.

Atlanta was 24th in the league in offense and last in defense. The Falcons were last running the ball and last defending the run.

And then there is the dilemma of spirit among the Falcons, with three players having died in the last three years, one from a cocaine overdose in 1988 (cornerback David Croudip), and two in separate car accidents last fall (offensive tackle Ralph Norwood and tight end Brad Beckman).

Thus, the Falcons need help everywhere, plus much improvement from their present cast. Just two months ago, Keith McCants, an Alabama line-backer, was Atlanta's No. 1 choice.

If Atlanta opts for George, they risk the future of Chris Miller, their three-year quarterback who has shown impressive skills. Last season he had the lowest interception percentage of any NFL passer. "I don't believe Keith McCants' value has changed," Glavine said. "What has changed is two future great quarterbacks: Jeff George and Andre Ware are coming out, so the value of the No. 1 pick has totally changed. We think Chris Miller is going to be a great quarterback, too."

George and Ware, of Houston, are among 38 underclassmen who have entered the draft. At least eight underclassmen are expected to be selected in the first round.

The Dallas Cowboys, by finishing 1-15 and having the league's worst record last season, owned the first choice, but along with the Phoenix Cardinals and the Denver Broncos exercised their first-round rights in the supplemental college draft last July.

Dallas used that choice to select Steve Walsh, a former Miami quarterback. Dallas, however, has the 21st pick of the first round from the Minnesota Vikings and the Herschel Walker trade and will find a quality player there.

Only 25 first-round selections will be made because of last year's supplemental selections. Thus, even the Super Bowl champion San Francisco 49ers, drafting at No. 25 in the first round, will find an impact player available.

Each team will have 15 minutes to choose in the first round, 10 minutes to choose in the second round and five minutes to choose in each round thereafter.

Five to six rounds will be held Sunday and no round will begin after 9 p.m. The draft, which includes 12 rounds and 331 selections, concludes Monday.



Before the fighting broke out, 76ers guard Johnny Dawkins, bottom, battles for a loose ball with the Pistons' Joe Dumars.

# 76ers Win Division Title in a Melee, Nuggets Make Playoffs

The Associated Press

The Philadelphia 76ers clinched their first Atlantic Division championship since 1983 with a 107-97 victory over Detroit, the defending NBA kings, in a game Thursday night marred by a melee in the closing seconds.

"They started the fight and we just defended ourselves," said Philadelphia's Charles Barkley, who scored 36 points before being ejected with 15 seconds remaining along with Detroit's Bill Laimbeer and Scott Hastings.

"The Pistons sit up there on their high horses and don't expect anybody else to do anything," Barkley said. "If they want to go out in the parking lot, let's go."

Detroit's Isiah Thomas was ejected for punching Philadelphia's Rick Mahorn with 3:40 left. Philadelphia's victory, at Detroit, was its 13th in the last 15 games and made Sunday's finale against Boston meaningless.

The melee broke out when Mahorn was fouled by Detroit's Dennis Rodman as he scored a basket. Mahorn started after Rodman, then, according to referee Jake O'Donnell, "Laimbeer put the ball in Mahorn's face. I clearly saw Hastings sucker-punch Barkley. Every player on both benches will be fined. Otherwise, they'll review the tapes."

"Barkley hit me first," Laimbeer said. "I got hit first. What he says really doesn't matter. It has been building the whole season. My intent wasn't to start anything. When it happens, you don't think, you just react. It happens in sports."

At one point, Barkley, bleeding from a cut on his left temple, went to the bench and grabbed a metal chair but was restrained by an assistant coach.

"I was just going to sit down," Barkley said.

[Barkley sent Laimbeer a taunting note before the game. Several reporters witnessed Barkley writing a two-word note, the second word of which was "You." He addressed it to Laimbeer, signed it "Charles" and had a ball-boy run it to the locker room. United Press International reported.]

Elsewhere, the Denver Nuggets clinched a playoff berth and damaged the Houston Rockets' playoff hopes and spoiled a career-high 52-point performance by Houston's Akem Oluwunmi. The Nuggets beat the Rockets, 130-127.

## NBA Playoff Races

(The 8 in each conference qualify, Division winners needed 12 regardless of record)

EASTERN CONFERENCE			
	W	L	Pct.
1-Detroit	57	27	.677
2-Chicago	55	29	.659
3-Philadelphia	53	29	.646
4-Boston	50	30	.625
5-New York	45	35	.561
6-Milwaukee	42	38	.524
7-Indiana	41	39	.513
8-Cleveland	40	40	.500

WESTERN CONFERENCE			
	W	L	Pct.
1-L.A. Lakers	57	28	.673
2-Portland	54	28	.659
3-San Antonio	54	28	.659
4-Utah	54	28	.659
5-Phoenix	53	27	.663
6-Dallas	45	35	.561
7-Denver	42	38	.524
8-Houston	40	38	.513

ATLANTA (2) HOME (1): 71, Miami, AWAY (1): April 22, New York, AWAY (1): April 22, Orlando, AWAY (1): April 22, Golden State.			
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## BOOKS

### CITY ON THE ROCKS: Hong Kong's Uncertain Future

By Kevin Rafferty. 518 pages. \$21.95. Viking Inc., 40 West 23d Street, New York, N. Y. 10010.

Reviewed by Brian Kelly

THE industrious citizens of the British crown colony of Hong Kong are obsessed with two questions: What will happen when the Chinese take them over in 1997, and how much money can they make between now and then?

Hong Kong is a place of frantic anxiety these days as a consensus grows that what has been an extraordinary party is almost over. The most important number coming up next is June 30, 1997, when the British cede all rights to the colony and most of its 5.6 million capitalistic residents to the Chinese Communist leaders in Beijing. And the betting line says that Hong Kong will lose.

That pessimism is reinforced by Kevin Rafferty's "City on the Rocks," an exhaustive look at how one of the hottest economies in the world finds itself facing extinction. Rafferty, a former correspondent for the Financial Times, lays on the evidence that seven years from now Beijing is unlikely to allow Hong Kong's wild and wildly successful commerce to proceed unfettered. Not that seven years matters, Rafferty argues, since policies in both Beijing and London are all but

assuring the self-destruction of Hong Kong right now.

The book begins with a reconstruction of last spring's massacre in Beijing, an event which stunned even the hardened occupants of Hong Kong and caused them to ask the Thatcher government for more protection. Thatcher refused and what had been a steady stream of migration became an exodus.

Burdened with memories of fleeing Mao's armies in the 1940s and '50s, or the insane Cultural Revolution of the 1960s, those who can leave Hong Kong have begun to.

The Chinese have done little to stem the flow. Despite their original deal with Britain that they would leave the colony virtually untouched for 50 years, few now believe that is likely. Whether through stupidity or calculation, they are losing the backbone of the economy.

As for the Brits, Rafferty roasts them for making a rotten deal with the Chinese in 1984 by essentially giving up the colony while getting nothing in return. He thinks Thatcher sold out her colonial subjects. Rafferty pleads with the powers in London to do the right thing and offer passports to all British subjects in Hong Kong, reasoning that this will give them incentive to stay until 1997 — and an escape valve if the worst fears come true after that.

Despite his bleak assessment, Rafferty also shows how Hong Kong has always defied the odds. It hasn't stopped growing. Fueled by an immigrant population

with an unsurpassed work ethic and a government that is content to run the city services and let business alone, Hong Kong has tallied some amazing numbers, such as a per-capita income almost equal to Britain's, status as the world's 12th largest trading nation and the world's largest container port.

There is also a notion afoot that ultimately it may be Hong Kong that takes over China, at least as far as influencing the economic system. One need only look at the expanse of new factories in southern China and realize that most are filling orders taken in Hong Kong to see that the island could be quite an engine.

Still, you can guess all you want; all that counts is what's on the minds of the Chinese leadership. On that score, Rafferty is wisely humble. I suspect he, too, learned the lesson I did from a Chinese-American correspondent who said, "Anyone who tells you he knows what the leaders in Beijing are thinking, doesn't know what he's talking about."

This is a book at its best, crowded, and sometimes confusing as its subject. It is also considerably drier than I would have hoped.

Even with these flaws, "City on the Rocks" is a perfect primer to accompany you through the next chapter of one of the world's great sagas.

Brian Kelly is editor of *Regardie's magazine* and co-author with Mark London of "The Four Little Dragons." He wrote this for *The Washington Post*.

## BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

WHEN a team trails substantially in a match, it has to swing a little, since routine results that match the other team will not help. There is an art in doing this. Outrageously optimistic bidding does not make sense; nor do plays clearly against the odds. Experienced players will make bids, leads and plays that are likely to differ from the other team, but are almost equally attractive. On the diagrammed deal, most players with the West hand would lead a club against three no-trump, and that might well be right. But it is almost a guess. North is almost certain to have four cards in one or both major suits. South is sure to have length in one or both minor suits. The West cards were held by Ron Gerard when his team was trailing by a large margin in a Vanderbilt Knockout Team match. He decided to swing, very slightly, by leading a spade, and struck gold. South won and worked on diamonds. East held up his ace until the third round, and continued spades. South was now at the crossroads. He could cross to the dummy with a club lead, cash the diamond winners, and pin his hopes on a heart finesse for his ninth trick. It can be seen that this would have succeeded. But South had good reason to expect, given the lead of the spade dummy, that the opponents' spades were split 4-4. He therefore led the heart jack, and was unhappy when East took three tricks to defeat the game. Gerard's team won the match and went on to win the title. But if the swing lead of the spade had been wrong, and the routine lead of a club had been the winner, the result would have been different.

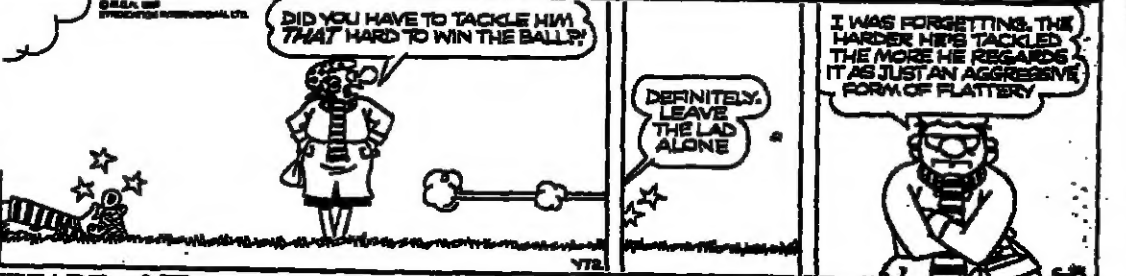
## PEANUTS



## BEETLE BAILEY



## ANDY CAPP



## WIZARD OF ID



## REX MORGAN



## GARFIELD



## DOONESBURY



## DENNIS THE MENACE



## JUMBLE



## BLONDIE





## SPORTS

## VANTAGE POINT/George Vecsey

## Fagin Would've Loved Artful Dodgers' Owner

New York Times Service

NEW YORK—News item: The proprietors of a bar in Brooklyn, named the Brooklyn Dodger, have been sued by the proprietors of a baseball team in Los Angeles, named the Los Angeles Dodgers.

The owner of the baseball team, one Peter O'Malley, claims to have control over the name Brooklyn Dodgers.

"Who is this Dickens?" O'Malley shrieked.

"Beg your pardon, sir?" asked his secretary.

"Dickens, Charles Dickens," O'Malley shouted. "Who is he?"

"A writer, sir."

"One of those smart-aleck sportswriters like Murray, or that sarcastic myth man who used to annoy father?"

"Oh, no, sir," the secretary replied. "Charles Dickens is one of the most famous writers in the world."

"Well, I never heard of him in business school," O'Malley snorted. But that's neither here nor there. Get me the name of his lawyer."

"I'm afraid that's going to be quite difficult, sir," the secretary said. You see, Charles Dickens died in 1870."

"Well, find somebody who represents him. An agent. His descendants. A publisher. I'm going to sue them all."

"Excuse me, Mr. O'Malley, but may I ask why you want to sue Charles Dickens?"

"For stealing our name. Our family name, Dodger. In a book called Oliver Twist. We used to have a Pee Wee Oliver. Al Oliver pinch-hit for us in 1985. But I never heard of Oliver Twist until today."

"But what does a nineteenth-century English novelist have to do with our baseball team, sir?"

"Look right here," O'Malley said, displaying a page from Benet's Reader's Encyclopedia.

"A character named Fagin goes around teaching young thieves. His last pupil is 'perfectly adept in villainy and pickpocketing especially.' You know the name of his star pupil? The Artful Dodger, that's what. We cannot have that."

"But that's only a book," the secretary said. "That doesn't have anything to do with baseball."

"You think so?" O'Malley sneered. "Well, let me tell you something. We don't sell three million tickets a year for nothing. We've got a reputation for wholesome. Our stadium is so clean you could drop our hamburger on the floor and eat it."

"Our players all take grooming lessons and public speaking," he continued. "Tommy Lasorda never curses away from the field. Thieves? Pickpockets? Bunco artists? We Dodgers are more sophisticated. This Artful Dodger is bad for our image, and we are going to sue."

"If I may say so, sir, your lawyers are quite busy at the moment with that Brooklyn case."

"Well, that is my first priority," O'Malley admitted. "The nerve of those people, calling their bar the Brooklyn Dodger. They're trying to cash in on our business."

"But, sir, you have never been in that bar business. And didn't you tell me that you left Brooklyn in 1957 and you haven't been back since?"

"That's right," O'Malley said. "I won't even go through that wretched ground. I flew in for the World Series one year and my driver was taking short cut along Atlantic Avenue, and I made him stop and go back rough Queens. I was afraid they might stop my limousine and hold me for ransom."

"What would be the price, sir?"

"Returning the Dodgers to Brooklyn," O'Malley said. "That's why I cannot allow this bar to use our name. It only fans the flames of rampant socialism. It makes these blasted Brooklynites remember their roots. They start thinking about that seedy little ballpark in Flatbush. Not tough parking lots. Not enough seats. But everybody gets so nostalgic about that freetrack, and starts talking rubbish about how Brooklyn might've done better if we hadn't moved to Los Angeles."

"Well, I can understand your not wanting to wake up those emotions," the secretary said. "But how can you stop somebody in Brooklyn from using a bar the Brooklyn Dodger?"

"How? How? How?" O'Malley squawked, his voice growing louder. "I show you how. When those nice people in Los Angeles gave us Javier Ravine, they also gave us the rights to the word 'dodger.' Nobody in this entire country can use the word."

"The D-word?" the secretary said.

"Exactly," O'Malley said. "Tax-dodgers. Fare-dodgers. Draft-dodgers. Even other forms of the word, like doge-bell. If you see little children saying that game in the street, you tell them they may continue to play it, if they must promise to call it something else. We've also got our myers working on that automobile. The nerve of that lacocca fellow."

"You're certainly persistent," the secretary said.

"We worked very hard for the rights to that word," O'Malley said. Here, see for yourself. Look at the dictionary: 'Dodger, (doh-jer) n. 1. a one who dodges; a tricky fellow.' That's our name. Ours alone. We've tried it."

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Pete Rose admitted concealing nearly \$300,000 in income.

## Expos Win, But No-Hitter Eludes Martinez in 8th

The Associated Press

A crowd of 23,010 in Philadelphia, lured mostly by the offer of free tickets, saw Dennis Martinez of Montreal come within five outs of the second no-hitter in the two-week-old major league baseball season.

Martinez retired the first 18 batters before a leadoff walk in the seventh inning. He didn't give up a hit until Darren Daulton doubled with one out in the eighth and finished with a two-hitter as the Expos beat the Philadelphia Phillies, 5-0, Thursday night.

"Thinking perfect game or no-hitter is selfish," Martinez said. "But I knew I had a shot. So, I thought about it."

The game was one of those scheduled because of the lockout and the Phillies offered free tickets for those who clipped a coupon out of a newspaper. A total of 14,593 free tickets were given out on a first-come, first-served basis. Another 8,417 paid to watch.

Martinez struck out seven and walked one in his 17th career shutout.

Len Dykstra walked to start the seventh. In the eighth, Daulton doubled off the head of center fielder Marquis Grissom.

"I didn't want to get behind 3-1, so I threw a fastball I expected to sink," Martinez said. The ball stayed in the middle of the plate and he crushed it.

Tommy Herr singled in the ninth for the Phillies' other hit.

Von Hayes was hitless for Philadelphia and charged that Martinez was spitting tobacco juice on the ball.

Hayes struck out on three pitches in the seventh inning and was ejected after flipping the bat over his shoulder.

"It's O.K. he thinks that way," Martinez said of Hayes's allegation.

"I want him to think that way. That's great. I rub the ball and when the umpire sees it the ball is O.K."

Bruce Ruffin balked home a run in the first and Tim Lincecum's RBI double in the fourth made it 3-0.

Mets 4, Cubs 1: In New York, Dwight Gooden won his first game.

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

In 304 days, rebounding from two losses this season, he gave up one run on four singles, struck out seven and walked two in seven innings. Gooden, who missed most of last year with a torn shoulder muscle, has never lost three consecutive decisions.

Howard Johnson's two-run double in the fifth broke a 1-1 tie. The Mets managed just three hits and the Cubs got only four.

Dodgers 7, Astros 3: In Los Angeles, Orel Hershiser outpitched Mike Scott and won for only the second time in 13 starts. Hubie Brooks hit a three-run home run and Kal Daniels homered and drove in three runs for the Dodgers, who led by 7-1 after four innings.

Hershiser got his 99th career victory. He gave up three runs on nine hits in seven innings, striking out six and walking none. Scott surrendered seven runs on six hits and four walks in four innings.

Pirates 5, Cardinals 1: Bobby Bonilla's single broke an eighth-inning tie and Barry Bonds followed with a home run as Pittsburgh rallied in St. Louis. Jose Magrane took a five-hitter and 1-0 lead into the eighth. But a walk, a triple by Gary Redus and a single by Bonilla put the Pirates ahead.

Cardinals pitchers had worked 21 straight scoreless innings before Pittsburgh broke loose.

Athletics 5, Mariners 2: In an American League game in Oakland, California, Dave Stewart ran

land, April winning streak to 17 games, allowing one run on five hits, walking two and striking out two in seven innings.

Stewart, who lost the first 11 April decisions in his career, is 3-0 with a 1.86 earned-run average this season. He's won 17 of 18 April starts since 1987, and the A's won his only no-decision, 5-4 over Toronto last year.

Rickey Henderson led the Oakland attack by reaching base five times with two walks, an RBI single, and a fielder's choice. He also scored two runs and stole three bases.

Brewers 11, Rangers 0: Milwaukee hit his double-figures for the third time this week and got a four-hitter from Chris Bosio in Arlington, Texas. It was the first complete game of 1990 in the American League. In their last four games, the Brewers have scored 42 runs.

"This was the first decent weather we've had this year and I was able to go 103 pitches," said Bosio, who struck out five and walked one. "I got a good sweat going and was loose."

Indians 1, Yankees 0: Greg Swindell pitched 6 1/3 scoreless innings, giving up three hits, and the Indians scored their only run on a passed ball in front of 6,000 fans in Cleveland. Tom Brookens tripled off Pascual Perez and scored on Rick Cerezo's passed ball in the sixth.

Orioles 4, Tigers 2: Dave Johnson scattered seven hits in six innings and Billy Ripken had two hits and a run batted in for the Orioles in Baltimore. The Orioles took the lead for good in the first when they sent eight men to the plate and went up, 2-0. Baltimore led, 4-1, after three innings on six hits and five walks.

## Rose Guilty on False Tax Returns

## Baseball Legend Apologizes, Hopes to Enter Hall of Fame

United Press International

CINCINNATI — Pete Rose, banned from baseball for life for gambling, pleaded guilty Friday to concealing nearly \$300,000 in income from the Internal Revenue Service.

Rose, baseball's all-time hits leader, admitted concealing about \$350,000 of income from baseball card shows, personal appearances and gambling from 1984 to 1987. In a plea bargain agreement reached with prosecutors, Rose pleaded guilty to filing false tax returns in 1985 and 1987, which totaled about \$300,000 in concealed income.

In return for Rose's pleas, the government agreed not to file charges for 1984 and 1986. Rose, the former Cincinnati Reds player and manager, faces a maximum of six years in prison and \$500,000 fine.

U.S. District Judge Arthur Spiegel ordered a pre-sentencing investigation — which should take four to six weeks — but did not set a date for sentencing. Rose, 49, remained free on his own recognizance.

Rose, considered a sure candidate for the Baseball Hall of Fame, was banned from the game last

summer after a six-month investigation into allegations of gambling. Prosecutor Michael Crites said it was too early to tell if the government would recommend that Rose go to prison.

"It's tough to say if the case merits prison time," Crites said. "Some people in similar cases are sentenced; some receive probation. The judge has a great deal of latitude."

In a statement after the court hearing, Rose acknowledged his gambling problem, apologized and said he deserved to be in the Hall of Fame.

"I realize that millions of baseball fans may have been disappointed because I didn't live up to the respect and admiration they gave me during my career," said Rose, a Cincinnati native.

"I am not a bad person," he continued, "but I did some bad things. I have a sickness. I had a gambling problem."

More than \$25,000 of Rose's underreported income is said to be gambling profits.

Rose had admitted betting on baseball games and had said, after being banned, that he had a gambling problem. However, he vehemently denied a statement last Au-

gust by Baseball Commissioner A. Bartlett Giamatti that he bet on his own team. Giamatti died of a heart attack shortly after banning Rose from baseball.

Rose, with 4,256 career hits, has the right to apply for reinstatement on the anniversary of his banishment.

For the past year a federal grand jury has been investigating Rose's sources of income and his tax returns.

From 1984 through 1987, Rose reported taxable income of \$4,660,368 and paid taxes totaling \$2,027,417.70.

For 1985, the plea agreement said, Rose failed to report income of \$95,168 from baseball card shows, autographs, personal appearances and memorabilia sales. He also failed to report \$11,309 from gambling, prosecutors said.

For that year, Rose had reported income of \$33,500 from baseball card shows and the like, and nothing from gambling.

For 1987, prosecutors said, Rose failed to report \$171,552 from baseball card shows, plus \$13,823 from gambling. For that year, Rose had reported \$18,000 income from baseball card shows and nothing from gambling.

Assistant U.S. Attorney William Hunt said Rose lied on his tax returns to hide money he was spending and losing on gambling, and did not want his financial advisers to know how deeply he was involved in gambling.

"In the early 1980s," Hunt said, "Rose began selling memorabilia to pay gambling debts and he did not tell his financial advisers about it."

Hunt said that among the memorabilia Rose sold was the bat used by him in No. 4, 1992, which broke Ty Cobb's record of 4,191. Hunt said the bat was sold to an unidentified person for \$129,000.

In order to hide most of the profits from the IRS, said Hunt, Rose had the buyer write him 15 checks — 11 for \$9,000, one for \$5,000 and one for \$25,000.

Banks are required by law to report any transaction of \$10,000 or more and Hunt said the checks were cashed separately over a period of time.

Rose has already paid the IRS \$365,000 for his back taxes, interest and penalties for the 1984-87 period.

"The things that matter to me right now are getting my life back in order and regaining the trust of my family and friends," said Rose. "I know that I will regret as long as I live the pain and embarrassment I have caused them and baseball."

There is no way of knowing whether Rose will be sentenced to prison. Under federal sentencing guidelines, the judge will consider the amount of money involved, the defendant's prior criminal record, his cooperation with the government and his remorse.

Spiegel is the same judge who sentenced Thomas Gionso to five years in prison for transporting cocaine and claiming Rose's race-track winnings as his own part of a conspiracy to defraud the IRS.

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Dennis Martinez of Montreal unleashes one of the pitches that retired the first 18 Philadelphia batters he faced in a 5-0 shutout.

## Lawsuit Asserts Coach Bought Heart-Medicine Reduction for Gathers

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The family of Hank Gathers was set to file a lawsuit Friday in Los Angeles Superior Court, citing 14 defendants, including the Loyola Marymount basketball coach, Paul Westhead; university; the team doctor and inner, and the doctors who treat Gathers.

Gathers, one of the most highly rated college basketball players in the United States, collapsed during



## POSTCARD

## A Return to Odessa

By David Remnick

Odessa, U.S.S.R. This is the city of jokes, sailors, dockers and thieves drinking warm beer and playing chess in the park. This is the city of Isakabel, and of the Jewish merchants, of regal Italianate palaces and of the Jewish wedding cakes flying out in the rain. But this is Arkady Lvov's city no more.

Fourteen years ago, Lvov left Odessa and the Soviet Union. By then his novels and essays had been blacklisted and the Ukrainian Writers' Union had kicked him out for the contradictory sins of Zionism and Ukrainian nationalism.

"Odessa was my life and literary material, but it needed a point where I couldn't live there," he said. "I mean, here—anywhere," Lvov said the other day, sitting on one of the benches along the city's pedestrian boulevard. "There was nothing left. For some reason, I'm not sure why, I feel more at home now in Paris or Vienna than I do in Odessa. Maybe it's the faces. These aren't the faces I knew. I don't know what it is."

Like thousands of Jews of Odessa before him, Lvov left for the Lower East Side of New York by way of Vienna and Rome. He did a stint at Harvard's Russian Research Center, wrote hundreds of commentaries for Radio Liberty's Russian-language service and published his stories in the émigré press. As part of a six-book contract, Doubleday published his acclaimed autobiographical novel, "The Courtyard," a Galsworthyian saga about Stalin's Russia set in one courtyard in Odessa.

This month, Lvov returned here for the first time. He is 60. Like so many exiled artists, Lvov enjoyed a certain sweet justice in his homecoming. He sat in the offices of spokesmen, city officials and local notables, changing street names ("Get rid of Lenin Street, you got rid of Stalin Street, didn't you?"). He made what he thought were daring political pronouncements on local television, lifting his eyebrows, waiting for rebukes that never came. He even phoned the local KGB ("So far they're not taking my calls").

The mayor of Odessa offered Lvov the apartment of his choice. "Come back here, however many months a year you like, and just

write," the mayor said as he rolled his cigarette across his teeth. "I just couldn't do it," Lvov said. "It's not my Odessa."

He is planning a sequel to "The Courtyard." It would start in the Khrushchev era and end in the 1980s. And so he visited old haunts, even the courtyard itself at 14 Avchenkovskaya Pereulok. "That's the same beige color as the old days," he said as he approached the three-story house, "but those aren't the old balconies."

Lvov is an Odessa romantic. His description of the Black Sea port is not much different from Mark Twain's in "Innocents Abroad." "I have not felt so much at home for a long time as when I raised the hill and stood in Odessa for the first time," Twain wrote. "It looked just like an American city: fine, broad streets and straight as well; low houses (two or three stories), wide, neat and free from any quaintness of architectural ornamentation; a fast walkway; a familiar new look about the houses and everything."

When Lvov was a boy, he said, Odessa still "was so linked to other places that it had a faraway, non-Russian feel. For a long time, Twain's description felt just right. Not now. Maybe not for a long time." When Lvov was in school, nearly half the population of 600,000 was Jewish. By the end of the war, thousands of Jews had been killed or deported. There are around 60,000 Jews now in the city of 1.2 million, and they are leaving in waves for the West.

Sparks, the Soviet Union's championship soccer team, was playing the local team, Black Sea. At the stadium, Lvov got a short blast of the old Odessa: the young boys spitting sunflower seeds and cursing the players in a tongue that enough to make a sailor blush.

At the half, Odessa led Spartak 1-0. The boys in the bleachers were in a frenzy, rolling their beer bottles down the mezzanine steps. A crowd streamed from the pages of the "Dead Souls" scurried along the aisles, fetching the empties and tossing them into her huge net bag. The boys cursed her worse than they did the goalie. She picked up a bottle, whistled into the lip and winked.

"It's like I've been gone 150 years," said Arkady Lvov. "And now I'm not sure I have a home."

## Atwood's Tale About the Banality of Evil

By Andrew H. Malcolm

TORONTO — Family and friends gathered in the home of Margaret Atwood in November to celebrate her 50th birthday.

With the lights off and joy and wine flowing freely, everyone was waving sparklers and singing—until the smoke alarm sounded and no one could find the switch to silence it.

In a way that incident, now taking on the aura of a family legend, is a symbol for some of Atwood's more recent writing.

For millions of readers in North America and elsewhere, Atwood's chilling best-seller "The Handmaid's Tale" has become a warning about what could happen when a country is taken over by a theocracy in a quiet, almost frighteningly normal fashion.

That concern is likely to increase, since a film version of the novel has been playing in the United States, Canada and Europe.

In the film as in the novel, part of a polluted United States, now called Gilead, is ruled by moralistic evangelicals who have relegated the remaining few fertile females, called handmaids, to the role of passive propagators.

Atwood's work, set in the Northeast, depicts a sterile, embattled world where women are divided into classes by color-coded clothing, where moral hypocrisy reigns and where abortion is a capital crime along with "gender treachery" (lesbianism).

The movie was produced by an American, Daniel Wilson, directed by a West German, Volker Schlöndorff, adapted from Atwood's novel by an Englishman, Harold Pinter, and interpreted by an international cast headed by Robert Duvall, Faye Dunaway and Nastasia Kinski.

A fairly faithful adaptation of the grim and clever book, which has sold more than a million copies, the movie emerged from many hours of consultation among Schlöndorff, Pinter and Atwood around her kitchen counter.

Atwood lives with her companion, Graeme Gibson, their daughter, Jess, and two cats named Fluffy and Blackie on a quiet, narrow residential street within a screaming distance of Toronto's trendy Yorkville area.

In one sense the 1985 tale has helped mark an international coming of age for writers in Canada, a country that many elsewhere had long seen as a kind of de-facto American.

Many years ago Hugh MacLennan, another Canadian novelist, described the literature of a young Canada as "boy mees in Winnipeg, and who cares?"

But now an entire generation of worldly English Canadian writers, including Robertson Davies, Alice Munro, Mordecai Richler, Farley Mowat and Atwood, are producing literature with themes that strike responsive chords throughout the English-speaking world and beyond.

Sipping tea and munching "sinful chocolate cookies" in her kitchen, Atwood called her best-known novel a "what-if" tale.

The story for "Handmaid's Tale" began to



Margaret Atwood's 1985 best-seller "The Handmaid's Tale" is now a film directed by Volker Schlöndorff and adapted by Harold Pinter. The success of the story, a chilling warning to society, has helped Canadian writing come of age.

emerge in 1980, she said, as individual images ignited by newspaper items and snippets of conversation.

"I didn't include anything that had not already happened, was not under way somewhere or that we don't have the technology to do," she said.

For four years she collected thoughts and clippings and found that the handmaid story was interrupting her other writing.

So she set other work aside and in 1984, during teaching stints in Berlin and Alabama, began writing the novel, which was published in Canada in 1985 and in the United States in 1986.

Her tale draws on details and artifacts from history and from many cultures. References, descriptions and borrowings include a Berlin-type wall, slave-breeding practices, chemical pollutants that affect human reproduction, government decrees on abortion and enforced birth that draw from similar rules in Romania and China, and codes of puritanical religious conduct that are found in fundamentalist Iran.

Quaker Pennsylvania and 17th-century New England, where an ancestor of Atwood's was sentenced to hang as a witch. The white hood placed over the head of those being hanged in her tale is derived from 19th-century Canadian executions.

"I was reading the Bible—some of us 'and I saw the tale of Jacob and his wives and handmaids, a kind of early Baby M. This is not an attack on Christianity, but



Atwood pronounced herself happy with the movie version.

"This story," she said, "could have been the most gross exploitative film ever, sort of 'maids on a sexual rampage.'"

She said she enjoyed the brief spurts of fame that accompany the release of a new book or movie.

"It's fun if you understand it's not serious, not real life," she said. "It's interesting to experience and observe. But if you start seeing the billboards and believing you're Cinderella, then you're in very serious trouble creatively."

Atwood has stopped all outside activities to return to writing a new novel, subject unannounced, on her normal writing schedule.

That involves covering a half-dozen legal pages in as many hours with handwriting each day and then typing and rewriting a handful of pages written several days previously.

She finds this kind of haphazard back and forth helps her insure consistency and gauge pacing and progress.

To relax, she consumes a murder mystery in two or three hours.

"I love them," she said. "They reduce chaos to order and are not immediately threatening."

## PEOPLE

## Berlin Wall to Be Scene Of Rock Extravaganza

A \$6.5-million rock extravaganza will be held this summer at the Berlin Wall as a "memorial for all war dead," the former Pink Floyd band leader Roger Waters said. Organizers say some of the world's best-known rock performers, a cast of 500 extras, choirs and a symphony orchestra would appear in the performance of "The Wall," the brainchild of Waters, who first recorded the chart-buster with Pink Floyd in 1979. "A 600-foot-long, 60-foot-high wall will be used in the show," Waters said. "Winston Churchill's grandchild, Prince Charles, will be the first to walk into a monument at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri, where the British prime minister warned of an Iron Curtain descending across Europe. Edwards Sandys of New York intends to turn a 24-foot chunk of the wall into a statue depicting a man and woman stepping westward to freedom. The sculpture, to be named "Breakthrough," is to face the West, weigh 16 tons, and reach 10 feet high and 18 feet wide.

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